At some point in history, human beings decided that for economic and security reasons, it would be a good idea to stop living as nomads, roaming the countryside all alone. So they started to band together in communities. With that, the first towns and cities were born and for the first time, people began to be neighbors. About a week later, somebody noticed that tall fences and even good, strong walls make for good neighbors. When people live closely together, conflicts will arise over the silliest things.

Most of these cases fall easily under the heading, “What’s that noise?” or “What’s that smell?” Everyone starts off as friends when they first move into the neighborhood, but then somebody’s dog starts barking in the middle of the night or somebody’s kid decides to take up the drums and suddenly we have a problem.

Maybe the guy next door thinks that it’s completely acceptable to come home at 2 A.M. singing “100 Bottles of Beer on the Wall” at the top of his lungs or maybe he only believes in using “natural” fertilizer for his lawn and he likes to use lots of it.

Perhaps somebody else doesn’t think that anyone will mind if he revs the engine on his Harley Davidson at 5 A.M. Maybe while spraying for weeds, one neighbor will “accidentally” kill all of the grass in the other guy’s yard or it could be that when one neighbor has a bar-b-que, the combination of lighter fluid and low intelligence results in somebody’s garage being burned completely to the ground. Whatever the case may be, there comes a point when a legal judgment must be sought and rendered to finally settle whatever disputes have arisen. A judge of superior wisdom is the final authority.

For many years on television, that man was Judge Joseph Wapner, and he ruled in The People’s Court. Every week, millions of people watched as he delicately worked through the legal intricacies of whether or not one person really did owe somebody else fifty bucks for a set of re-tread tires or if somebody really had accidentally killed someone else’s favorite tree or whether or not one person really was obligated to replace their neighbor’s set of designer garbage cans. Judge Wapner went to this noble work right after a very ominous voice declared, “Both parties have agreed to dismiss their court cases and have their dispute settled here in our forum—The People’s Court.”

In other words, before each episode even began, both warring neighbors agreed to submit themselves to the great and wise authority of Judge Wapner. He’d listen to the case from both sides and then he would give his judgment and then everyone would have to do exactly what he told them to do. All of the people who came into his court said one thing and felt one thing; they all had one point of view, but that didn’t matter nearly as much as what Judge Wapner had to say. His word was law and it was truth.

You may feel as if you are just fine the way that you are, but God says that you’re a sinner in constant need of amazing grace. You may feel as if you are unlovable, but God says that you are one of His beloved children. You may think that you don’t have enough time to serve God, but God says that you were created to bring glory to God’s name in all times and in all places. You may feel as if you don’t have anything left to offer, but God says that you are a unique and essential part of the body of Christ. So, will we accept and rejoice in all of the judgments that God renders?

See you in Church,
Rev. J.D.
**Circle Ministry**

_First Presbyterian Church, Muncie_

**Fellowship and Church Growth:**
The committee has adopted a “fellowship framework” for our church. The framework consists of “Rows,” “Circles,” and “Small Groups”. Spiritual growth and relationship-building occurs in each activity, but increases as you move from a “Row” to a “Circle” or “Small Group.”

Watch for more information about these fellowship offerings. If you have questions, please contact Cathy Alexander.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rows</th>
<th>Circles</th>
<th>Small Groups</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Definition</strong></td>
<td>• Focus on task at hand</td>
<td>• Focus on topic and relationships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Purpose: learn/serve</td>
<td>• Purpose: spiritual development and building relationships</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Short and long term</td>
<td>• Short term (TBD)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Guiding Principles</strong></td>
<td>• Open participation</td>
<td>• Open participation, shorter commitment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Single/multiple sessions</td>
<td>• Multiple sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Lay/Committee/Staff/Pastor driven</td>
<td>• Lay/Staff/Pastor driven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examples</strong></td>
<td>• Worship</td>
<td>• Grief Group (Fall 2015)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Sunday School</td>
<td>Men’s</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Koinonia</td>
<td>• Watch for upcoming circles!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Committees, Weekly Weeders, choir, single events (Beach Boys concert)</td>
<td>• “Seasonal”: “classically defined” groups that covenant to meet for 18-24 mos and then disband to form other groups</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• “Evergreen” groups (don’t break up)</td>
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**The Inside/Out Hot Meals Program** at FPC is now 3 months old! The Hot Meals Program provides just that, a hot meal, to children at local community centers (Boys & Girls Club, Buley, MOMS, and Unity Center).

The following is a portion of an email from Yolanda at the Unity Center:

_“This program has truly been a Blessing to the Unity Center. The word spread throughout the community and an 8th grader who just moved to the area now knows where he can come to get an evening meal. He was hungry they had no food at home; he came in hungry and left full. And on another note he now comes on a regular basis to participate in other programs, which keeps him off the streets.”_

_Here are some fun numbers, too:_

- 18,650-Number of Meals Served as of 4/10/15
- 2,830-Number of Meals Prepared in First Presbyterian Church Kitchen as of 4/10/15
- 750-Number of Volunteer Hours Invested in Inside Out’s Hot Meals Program as of 4/10/15

_Thanks to the following FPC volunteers who have made this happen:_


If you are interested in volunteering, see the signup sheet on the bulletin board or talk with one of the volunteers or Cathy Alexander.
Women of Faith has been encouraging women since 1996 with compelling stories, laugh-out-loud humor, Bible teaching, heart-tugging music, rejuvenating worship, and more! Women of Faith events are produced by the world’s largest producer of inspirational events for women, based in Plano, Texas. Through authentic connection with audiences, humor, and an atmosphere of encouragement and acceptance, world-class communicators deliver life-changing messages through high-quality programs in cities across North America.

Women of Faith is coming to Fort Wayne Friday night, **July 31, from 7 pm to 10 pm through Saturday, August 1 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm**. Approximate cost, including conference registration, hotel, boxed lunch, and transportation (tbd) is $200. If you are interested in attending, please contact Cathy Alexander by May 29. For more information, check out the website: http://www.womenoffaith.com/events2/fort-wayne

**FPC is going back to the Prairie! Save the Date!**

CLASSICAL MYSTERY TOUR: MUSIC OF THE BEATLES

**Friday, August 7**

The Classical Mystery Tour is back with their annual Marsh Symphony on the Prairie tribute to the band that changed rock and roll forever. Be sure to make your way to the stage to dance and sing along to your favorite Beatles classics.

for the FPC kitchen:

The Hot Meal Program plans to continue during the summer. That means we need more refrigerator space! If you have a used refrigerator (single door with freezer on top) to donate for use by the Hot Meal Program, please contact Cathy Alexander. Thanks!

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**A must read excerpt from the Star Press:**

“A Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Martha Kendrick for her lifelong commitment to service in our community. Kendrick retired from Burris Laboratory School in 2004, but has not slowed down at all. In 2006, she was honored with a VIVA Award for her work with Habitat for Humanity in the previous year. She continues to support Habitat’s work locally, and has served as a team leader on four international trips to Bolivia and Paraguay.

She is a dedicated member of First Presbyterian Church, and has served her congregation in numerous roles. Kendrick is a current member of the Mission Committee; serves as a Stephen Minister; mentors for Kid’s Hope; participates in the choir; and supports numerous local food programs. She has served on the Disaster Assistance team for the local chapter of the American Red Cross, working in the office, and assisting with Emergency Response Vehicle runs. Finally, she finds the time to serve as a cuddler in the NICU at IU Health BMH on a weekly basis.

Beverly Wilson, who nominated Kendrick, noted that to be worthy of the Lifetime Achievement Award, one needs “a high energy level, have a good work ethic, be willing to serve in any capacity, have a true desire to help your ‘neighbor,’ and have a heart as big as a globe.”

“Because Martha Kendrick embodies all of these characteristics, she was honored by the Rotary Clubs of Muncie for a lifetime of service benefitting Muncie, Delaware County, and beyond,” the release stated.”

(The Star Press EDT April 22, 2015)
Our friends in the International Congregation have an opportunity to host students from our sister church in South Korea from **August 2-12**. They need 4-5 people to volunteer to help teach English to the students and they also need people to volunteer to house the students during that time.

Please contact Rev. J.D., Pastor Lee or Cathy Alexander if you are interested.

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This year marks the 30th anniversary of the summer garden service. As part of the celebration, the Grounds Committee is rejuvenating the garden with fresh plantings. We would also like to thank the myriad of individuals who have contributed time, talent, and memorial plantings over the past 60 years. Your efforts have made our church campus the beautiful and serene place it is today.

Thank you, Grounds Committee

Jan McCune, Moderator

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Got Spring fever? Just itching to get outdoors? Come join the Weekly Weeders as we beautify the church grounds. We meet each **Wednesday** morning from **8:30-10:30** starting **May 6** and continue through August. Bring your own tools, but we’ll provide the fellowship and laughter. Any questions, call Jan McCune (717-4291) or Nanette Rushton (288-0386).

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**Adult Ministry Luncheon**

Join us for lunch on Wednesday, May 20 at 12 noon in Fellowship Hall.

Presentation on Mission Team’s recent trip to the Dominican Republic.

Lunch is $3.00 per person, please call the church office (289-4431) to make reservations by May 18.

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**First Presbyterian Church**

1400 W. Riverside Ave.
Muncie IN 47303
Phone: 765-289-4431
Fax: 765-289-4486
www.firstpresmuncie.org
info@firstpresmuncie.org

**SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES:**

8:30 a.m.—Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary)
11:00 a.m.—International Service (Chapel)
11:00 a.m.—Traditional Service (Sanctuary)

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**The Rev. J. D. Georlett, Senior Pastor/Head of Staff**

revjd@firstpresmuncie.org

**The Rev. Dr. Myungku Lee, Associate Pastor**
ninebrights@hotmail.com

**The Rev. Elinor Dale, Associate Pastor**
elinor@firstpresmuncie.org

**Cathy Alexander, Director of Mission & Small Group Activities**
cathy@firstpresmuncie.org

**Tracy Clinger, Director of Children’s Ministry**
tracy@firstpresmuncie.org

**Lisa Ulrich, Business Administrator**
lisa@firstpresmuncie.org

**Keena Bentley, Administrative Assistant**
keena@firstpresmuncie.org
First Presbyterian Pre-Kindergarten is offering our first ever Kindergarten Readiness program for children entering kindergarten in the fall, 2015. Our one week program will allow the children the opportunity to review academic skills as well as social and independent skills needed for success in kindergarten. Daily activities will include but not limited to story time, letter identification and sound recognition, early math skills, problem solving, self-help skills and socialization with peers. The children will also bring a sack lunch which will provide the opportunity for children to eat with their peers and socialize through table conversation but also eat their lunch within a designated time frame.

**COME JOIN US FOR A WEEK OF FUN AND LEARNING!**

Mrs. Kathy Pretzsch and Helper Miss Katie  
July 13-17, 2015  
9:00 am – 1:00 pm  
$20.00 registration/supply fee, non-refundable  
$95.00 for the week, payable the first day of class  
*Registration is required, spaces are limited!*

Registration forms can be found online at firstpresmuncie.org and on the information desk. Forms are due by June 30, 2015. If you have questions please contact Tracy Clinger 751-7960 or tracy@firstpresmuncie.org.

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First Presbyterian Pre-Kindergarten is offering, first ever, summer programming for ages 3-5 (or just completed preschool) This mid-week program is an opportunity for your child to connect with friends in a Christian environment! Your child must be at least 3 years of age and potty trained to participate in this program. This program will run for 6 weeks beginning **June 3, 2015** and ending **July 8, 2015**. Every week will have its own theme! You may pick and choose those that are appealing or enjoy all six! Wednesdays from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm! Cost: $16 (Bring a sack lunch).

*Registration is required the Friday prior to each session and we must have at least 5 children registered for each week. Registration forms for the first session are due by May 8, 2015. Registration forms can be found online at firstpresmuncie.org and on the information desk. If you have questions please contact Tracy Clinger 751-7960 or tracy@firstpresmuncie.org.***

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**Weekly Themes**

- June 3: Fun with Bubbles
- June 10: Farm Exploration
- June 17: The Beach
- June 24: Outdoor Art
- July 1: Fourth of July Celebration
- July 8: Camp Adventure
**Branches’ Upcoming Events**

To glorify God, Branches’ activities provide education, fellowship, mission, stewardship, and worship experiences for all junior high and senior high students. All gatherings are from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the church unless otherwise noted and will usually include dinner. Always check your email for more details and last minute changes. If I don’t have your email address, please send it to Elinor@firstpresmuncie.org

“I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.”

John 15:5

May 3: Youth Sunday planning
May 10: Confirmation Sunday
Youth Sunday rehearsal and Last Branches of the year!
May 17: Youth Sunday during worship

**Salvation Army Pantry:**

May donation item: Peanut Butter & Jelly
Please place your donation(s)
In the cart in Fellowship Hall.

**Upcoming Summer Trips**

**Confirmation Retreat June 12-13**

**Montreat Youth Conference June 14-20**

**Mission Trip to New Orleans July 19-26**

A night of food, fellowship and learning for all ages at First Presbyterian

**Koinonia** (Koy-neh-nah)—noun—Fellowship, Participation, Close Relationship [with God], Gift

**Wednesdays** – Dinner together at 6 pm; Bible Study* & Children's Programming at 6:45 pm

May 6th will be our last Koinonia until late Summer.

**Join our mailing list!**

Our weekly FYI e-mails let you know what’s happening and how you can be involved. If you would like to start/stop receiving these e-mails, or maybe your email has changed, let us know by emailing keena@firstpresmuncie.org

**Last Day of Youth/ Children’s Sunday School**

May 10 is the last day of Sunday School for children & youth. On May 17, please join us during the Sunday School hour for the Recognition Brunch.

Sunday School will resume in the fall.
The Church Library Invites You

With the Book Fair coming up, it might be a good time to become acquainted (or better acquainted) with the church library. While we have many dedicated patrons, we would like to have many more. Although the library is small, it offers more than 3,000 items.

Best-sellers, popular fiction, inspirational books, biographies, works of theology – all these and much more are available for loan. The library includes an extensive array of books for children. They range from board books and picture books for the very young to novels and non-fiction for older youth. Besides books, the library offers DVDs, CDs, and videos for children and adults.

The library is easy to use. Recent books are displayed on racks in the hall opposite the library entrance. Videos and DVDs are just inside the door. Non-fiction books are arranged by subject on the shelves to the left in the main room. Fiction is on the shelves to the right. Fictional works are arranged alphabetically by last name of author. Each item has card with space for the current date and the name of the borrower. Fill out the card and leave it in the basket provided. There is no deadline for returning books, but we certainly appreciate getting them back within a reasonable time* because other readers may be awaiting their return.

In 1955, a book was returned to Cambridge University Library – 288 years overdue.* This is thought to be the record for the late return of a book to a library. We trust that no member of our congregation will try to break it.

*This information comes from The World’s Greatest Book of Useless Information by Noel Botham, chairman, The Useless Information Society. This book is not to be found in the church library. All the books there contain only useful information.

Maxine and Chuck Leslie

SAVE THE DATE: Vacation Bible School for age 3 - 5th grade is

June 23-25, 2015 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm! Dinner 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm; VBS 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm!

OUTBACK ROCK: “WHERE KIDS VENTURE INTO ROCK SOLID FAITH”

Three days of high energy songs, crafts, Bible stories and games!

Needing Volunteers!

Please contact Tracy Clinger, Director of Children’s Ministry at 751-7960 or tracy@firstprespemie.org if you are able to help! FPC offers one of the best VBS programs thanks to those who volunteer and give generously of their time! Thank you in advance for continuing to support this ministry to the community!
**Confirmation Sunday ••• May 10**

We will recognize and celebrate our 8 confirmands during the 11 a.m. service. Congratulations to Grace Belangee, Hailey Chang, Nolan Clay, Caleb Gillis, Joshua Kim, Brendan Ottinger, Jinwon Pae, and Laura Rogers!

**Youth/Recognition Sunday •••• May 17**

**Calling All High School Seniors & 2nd graders!**

Graduating high school seniors will be recognized, the Gishler and Mannies scholarships will be awarded, and second graders will receive their bibles and be recognized for “graduating” to full time worship in the sanctuary as a 3rd grader next year.

**All-Church Carry-In Brunch - 9:45 am** • Fellowship Hall • Bring your favorite brunch dish to serve 12!

**Book Fair -** Dozens of new books will be on display in the north lobby from **8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** on **Sunday May 17.** Please stop by and look over the new arrivals. The Book Fair is an important source of new books for the library. We ask you to buy a book (or several) and donate it to the library. When you do this, you get to share a work of information/inspiration with fellow church members. Don’t forget, when you buy a book and donate it you don’t have to find a place to store it in your bookcase at home.