I would like to use this space to give everyone an update on the progress that our capital campaign is making. First, I’d like to look backward before we look forward.

The decision to conduct a capital campaign was generated exactly in the way that it should be. It was born in the midst of many conversations over several months that I had with several members and elders and staff. It became clear to me that there was a great need for us as a church to come together around the common cause of making a great offering to the glory of God. It became more and more exciting to think about the effect that a joyful and successful campaign would have upon the future of First Presbyterian Church.

I began to talk about the possibility of conducting a Capital Campaign with the members of our Finance Committee. I was pleased to receive great support for the idea. Meanwhile, our Property Committee was already hard at work in developing a list of things that could potentially be updated and improved. I then went to the Session and upon approval of the campaign, I gathered with the members of the Finance Team once again for the purpose of selecting a consultant to assist us through the process.

We unanimously agreed upon the consultant that we wanted, Dustin Cooper, from Horizons Stewardship. Dustin has subsequently conducted a rather complete evaluation of our congregation and has encouraged us to go forward with our plans. Based on his vast experience and based on comparisons to other churches across the country, Dustin is confident in our ability to have a very successful campaign. I am very excited by this news!

In accordance with Dustin’s recommendation, I have conducted five separate “Town Hall” or “Visioning” sessions. These were a wonderful joy for me. We were blessed with excellent attendance and participation, and I was thrilled to finally share with everyone, some of what we had done up to that point. As great as those meetings were, I knew that they were only the beginning. After those meetings were completed, I looked forward with great anticipation to the time when we would be able to more actively engage and involve the entire congregation. For much of this process, that just hasn’t been possible, as we worked through tedious detail, but now, I am very pleased to say that you will begin to see and hear so much more!

We have now selected leaders for the numerous teams that will be needed to make this campaign a success. Mike and Nicci Lunsford have agreed to be co-chairs of the campaign. Steve Cooper will serve as coordinator. There will be a prayer team led by Joel and Kelly Shrock. There will be another team that will develop different types of communication, using a wide variety of media. There will also be a celebration Sunday with a joyful party; the youth and children of the church will be involved in the campaign and everyone in the church will be connected and informed. Jonathan and Lynn Schmidt, Charlie and Claudia Sursa, John and Dana Linder, Aaron and Jacqueline Burton, Mike and Sharon Cox and Bill and Jan McCune are just a few of the people who have already agreed to participate in a variety of ways.

As you can see, this capital campaign will be one of the most wonderful things that First Presbyterian Church has ever done. I sincerely hope that each of you will choose to join with me in this truly wonderful project. What a great time to be a part of this great church!

See you in Church,

Rev. J.D.
Fellowship Sunday

The first Sunday of every month is “Fellowship Sunday”.

The next Fellowship Sunday is November 1.

Our regular “coffee/fellowship” time between services will take place in Fellowship Hall (refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall).

From 9:45 to 10:30 there will be a group activity which fosters relationship building, gathering people together around tables (in circles!) or interacting with each other.

Fellowship Sunday is a great time to invite people to visit our church.

The Fellowship Sunday on December 6 will be hosted by the Worship and Religious Arts Committee

If you are willing to be a table host please email Cathy

(cathy@firstpresmuncie.org)

Meet OUR missionary, Eunhyung (Joshua) Park

Our church is supporting the missionary efforts of Joshua Park, a member of our International Congregation. Joshua, a graduate of Grace Theological Seminary in Winona Lake, Indiana, has served in East Africa and Nepal since 2012. Joshua is part of an organization called Biblical Education by Extension (BEE). Joshua is focused on making disciples by providing theological teaching and Bible study to local pastors and church leaders in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Nepal.

This is Joshua’s personal faith statement. “When I was young around 10 years old, I accepted Jesus Christ as my savior and Lord. I believed that Jesus was crucified on the cross, died and resurrected conquering sin and power of death for me. When I was in my youth group we had Youth Bible Camp during vacation. A missionary preached and encouraged me to be a missionary. When he preached the Word of God, it touched my heart and I learned that life is so short and I wanted to live for God. So I made a vow to God to be a missionary. At that time, I had hoped that I would be a missionary for Africa. I had prayed for that with tears thinking of the many souls in Africa. Continuously, I had worshiped God and served churches.”

Joshua Park will be our Sunday school speaker on December 13. Please come and meet him and pray for his ministry.
Our Mission Team is looking for 20 individuals/families who would like to spread holiday cheer at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Food baskets will be assembled at the church, and volunteers are needed to deliver them as follows:

- **Thanksgiving Baskets**: November 22
- **Christmas Baskets**: December 20

A volunteer usually delivers both Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets to the same family; however, if you are not available to deliver on both dates, you can sign up to deliver on one date and someone else will deliver the other date. Please call Janie Miller (289-3652) or email janiem13@att.net for more information, or to sign up for this wonderful holiday project—especially fun for families or for 2 or 3 friends together.

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**Oh, Come All Ye Faithful…and Sing!**

Time for the all-church caroling party, **Sunday, December 13**, from 5:30 to 7:30! Bring the whole family! We will caravan to church members’ homes to spread holiday cheer (which means we need some good singers!) and return to the church for refreshments. Cider and hot chocolate provided...bring a plate of goodies to share.

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**Be a Bell Ringer**

for Salvation Army

at the Muncie Mall

(just inside the entrance by MCL Cafeteria).

First Pres members will be ringing the bells on **December 7-11** and **December 14-18** from **4:00-8:00 p.m.**

Choose a one-hour time slot and sign up later this month in the Lounge Hallway.

This is a great holiday activity for the whole family!

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**Holiday Hanging of the Greens**

**Sunday, November 29th**

**4:00 pm**

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**The Giving Tree**

The Giving Tree will be up in the Lounge hallway on Sunday, December 1, and you can help decorate it with ornaments which are displayed on the table beside the tree. Please select an ornament or several, remove the tag from the ornament and place the ornament on the tree. Then purchase the gift, wrap it, PUT YOUR TAG ON THE GIFT IDENTIFYING THE RECIPIENT, MAKING SURE THE FAMILY NUMBER IS ON IT. And put it under the tree.

Many ornaments represent a very special need of a family of children or of persons identified by the Salvation Army, A Better Way or the YWCA. Other ornaments represent gifts for agencies with whom we partner - some specific gifts and some monetary gifts.

It’s such a joy to buy for a child knowing how excited he or she will be. Each child will have two ornaments: one with toy or game suggestions and one with clothing suggestions and sizes. We ask that you choose only one of the suggestions per ornament because all the families have more than one child represented by ornaments. It wouldn't be fair for one child in the family to receive 12 gifts while the others each receive two. If you want to buy many gifts, you could take ornaments for all the children in the family.

Agencies represented by some of the ornaments include Christian Ministries, Muncie Habitat for Humanity, Second Harvest Food Bank, Motivate Our Minds (MOMS), and Muncie Mission.

Place your gift(s) under our Giving Tree by Friday, December 18, for delivery on December 20.
Thank you to all who participated in our Pumpkin Carving Family Night hosted by the Pre-Kindergarten. Families representing both congregations and the preschool enjoyed pumpkin carving, crafts and snacks in our beautiful garden! The evening concluded with a pumpkin contest where everyone voted and the top three winners were: The Holding Family (Jaxson is in our Toddler Time Program), The Yakos Family (Mangail & Oli), and The Lee Family (Minkyu & Chankyu)! The weather was amazing, the fellowship was lively, and the snacks were yummy!

The next event hosted by the Pre-Kindergarten will be Breakfast with Santa on December 12th in Fellowship Hall! Look for details in the near future, but mark your calendar now.

Preschool News

All classes from two year olds to five year olds are enjoying fall activities from apples to butterflies to pumpkins! Many classes have had their first field trips to Jacob’s Apple Orchard, White Tail Tree Farm or Minnetrista. All classes provide children the opportunity to grow and learn socially, emotionally, spiritually and academically through sensory experiences, crafts, stories, music and so much more. We are still accepting students for enrollment, for more information contact Tracy Clinger at 751-7960 or tracy@firstpresmuncie.org
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.

Fall is definitely here, and in the world of Youth, things are in full swing! As a group, we have spent time getting messy and making art for Youth Hall, talking about relationships, playing Footgolf, and we spent the night at church for a lock in full of fall activities. We have had so much going on each week and the best part is we've been able to do all these things together. The next two months will have lots of Sunday evenings spent doing mission work, laughing, playing games, and having fun because we're together!

Families mark your calendars!
November 6 is our next family night at church and we'll put our fire pit to use! Come make a foil pack dinner, make s'mores for dessert, and enjoy the bonfire. Dress to be outside! Meet out by the fire pit at the end of the parking lot from 5:30-7:00. Come when you can!

**Our weather plan will be Thanksgiving crafts inside.

November
Nov. 1: Prayer
Nov. 4: Koinonia
*Nov. 8: Personalities
Nov. 11: Koinonia
Nov. 15: College Care packages
Nov. 18: Koinonia
Nov. 22: All about Thanksgiving
Nov. 29: Hanging of the Greens
*Meeting at 4:00 p.m.

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Koinonia (Koy-nuh-neet'-ah)—noun—Fellowship, Participation, Close Relationship [with God], Gift

Join us Wednesday Evenings for dinner at 5:45 pm and Bible Study at 6:30 pm

A night of food, fellowship, and learning for all ages!

October 7-November 18
Genesis

December 2-December 23
Christmas Characters

January 6-January 27
The Holy Spirit

February 10—Ash Wednesday

February 17—March 6
The Seven Deadly Sins

April 6—May 4
Angels
Adult Ministry Luncheon

Thursday, November 19:
The Origins of our Favorite Christmas Carols…Tom Schwartz
Tom will share some of our favorite Christmas carols and discuss their origins and history. Call the church office (765-289-4431) to register by Tuesday, November 17.

Thursday, December 17:
Mystery Trip hosted by Julia Wadsworth
Julia will lead us on a fun holiday excursion. Look forward to beautiful surroundings, learning, music, and shopping! We will leave the church at 10 a.m. and return at 4 p.m. This is a trip both men and women will enjoy!
Deadline to register is Monday, December 14.

Future Sermons:
November 1—John 11:32-44—What Makes Jesus Weep?
November 8—Mark 10: 17-31
November 15—Mark 13:1-8—About the End of the World
November 22—John 18:33-37—Jesus the King
The Coming Of The Lord: What The Prophets Saw When They Looked Forward To Christmas
November 29—Jeremiah 33:14-16—Out of the Rubble

On Sunday, Nov. 22, at our 11 a.m. service, the Chancel Choir will be joined by the Adult Choir from High Street Methodist Church in the presentation of "What Does the Lord Require of You," the anthem written in honor of Ron Naylor's ministry; "Psalm 23" by John Rutter; and a festival hymn setting of "Come, Thou Almighty King." Earlier in the day the combined choir will sing at the 8:30 a.m service at High Street.

First Presbyterian Church
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Fax: 765-289-4486
www.firstprespuncie.org
info@firstprespuncie.org

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES:
8:30 a.m.—Contemporary Services (Sanctuary)
11:00 a.m.—International Service (Chapel)
11:00 a.m.—Traditional Service (Sanctuary)

The Rev. J. D. Georlett, Senior Pastor/Head of Staff
revjd@firstprespuncie.org

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

The Rev. Elinor Dale, Associate Pastor
elinor@firstprespuncie.org

Cathy Alexander, Director of Mission & Circle Ministry
cathy@firstprespuncie.org

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

Lisa Ulrich, Business Administrator
lisa@firstprespuncie.org

Keena Bentley, Administrative Assistant
keena@firstprespuncie.org

Our next trip to the Dominican Republic will be March 4-12, 2016.

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Wisdom of Women in the Bible

If you could spend some time with Ruth, Mary, and other women of the Bible, what wisdom might they share? What advice might they give to 21st century people?

Author John C. Maxwell imagines what ideas might be forthcoming from nine incredible women in Wisdom from Women in the Bible (220.9 MAXW). He devotes chapters to Ruth, Sarah, Rahab, Hannah, Abigail, Miriam, Mary, Martha, and the Samaritan Woman.

The author is a noted writer and lecturer on management who has sold more than 25 million books in 50 languages. He traces his interest in the women of the Bible and their wisdom to the stories his mother told him when he was a child.

The Difference Maker

Human existence poses a few fundamental questions. They haven’t changed since the time of Jesus. Everyone must make decisions about how they should conduct their lives. In his book Encounters with Jesus (232.9 KELL) Timothy Keller discusses the quandaries that people of the Bible faced and how Jesus provided the wisdom and guidance they sought.

The author, who is pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City, points out that some of the things Jesus said did not seem to make sense to those heard him. But as they came to know him, they understood. Rev. Keller writes “It seems Jesus not only had the answers – he was the answer.

In a Banquet Room

In a borrowed second-story room in Jerusalem, a group of men gathered on the eve of human history’s darkest hour. Their leader, Jesus, was about to be betrayed. He would endure unimaginable torment and death. His followers would be scattered. His closest adherent would deny him.

Although Jesus knew his fate, he used this time to impart to his disciples his final promises. They have been handed down to us in the Book of John, and they are the inheritance of every believer in Christ.

In The Upper Room (232.96 MACA), John MacArthur takes readers back to that night in Jerusalem and provides an exposition on the teachings of Jesus. Rev. MacArthur is pastor of Grace Community Church in Sun Valley, Calif.

Maxine and Chuck Leslie
November 19  Adult Ministry Luncheon
November 22  Turkey  Packing and delivering Thanksgiving baskets
November 28  The Giving Tree
November 29  Hanging of the Greens
December 1  Breakfast With Santa
December 13  All Church Caroling Party
December 17  Adult Ministry/Mystery Trip
December 20  Advent Brunch
December 20  Packing and delivering Christmas baskets