"Opening Pages"

The Rev. Dr. Pat Smith

I love books. Some people read with a view to the end of a book. While I definitely like to know how things turn out, I find I am drawn more to how an author invites me into the story. A great beginning compels me to keep turning pages.

We are in the opening pages of God's story of intentional transition here as First Presbyterian Church. This chapter doesn't come about by chance or the decision of Session or presbytery. It is my conviction that God has drawn us together at just this point and time for a story that God is writing one page at a time.

This interim chapter is about life in between our past and our future and between who we have been and who we will be. We have been placed in a story where trust in God and in one another is paramount. It's a time to build our life and witness in fresh ways as we affirm the good and faithful foundation of the past. These few years are a very significant time for us as Jesus' disciples.

Some early lines of this transitional chapter have already been written.

1. You have extended a grace filled, warm welcome to the Smiths. We are so grateful.
2. Laura and I have so enjoyed our first month as we settle in to our new church home, our downtown apartment and life in the greater Muncie and BSU community.
3. Walking alongside you is a rich gift. This is happening on Sunday mornings, in home gatherings to "Meet the Smiths" (please join in if you haven't), in meetings and around town. It is a joy to step into life with you.
4. Staff additions and shifts provide great ministry support that builds on all previous staff members' work. Kerry and Sunwoo and Lucas came on board the same time I did. Tracy moved back to her singular role leading our pre-school. Anna has just joined us as to lead the Praise Team and 8:30 worship. Keena chose to leave our staff two weeks ago which gives us a chance to reassess that position. The rest of our staff are serving us so very well. I am excited about what this staff can be and do to help the church write this chapter.
5. The new sign is now in place along Riverside Avenue, and it will be a very helpful tool to communicate with the people of our neighborhood.

We can anticipate a wonderful period of transition over the next few years. I am thrilled to be your pastor as we enter into the opening pages of this chapter in the life of First Presbyterian Church. God is writing something special, and I can't wait to turn the page to see what's coming next!
Celebrating Kirby’s 40 years of music ministry at First Pres!

New information!  New Information!  New Information!

Our beloved organist and choir director, Dr. Kirby Koriath, retired at the end of August after 40 years of music ministry at the church.

Two days of celebration of Kirby’s years of service have been planned by the Fellowship/Spiritual Growth and the Worship and Religious Arts Committees, starting with a dinner catered by Vera Mae’s on Saturday, October 15. A reception in the Church Lounge will start at 4:15, and the dinner and program will be held in Fellowship Hall at 5:15, ending in time for ticket holders to attend the Muncie Symphony Concert that evening. (Space is limited to 150 people, so if you wish to attend, please call the church office, 289-4431.)

On Sunday, October 16, Kirby and his son, Tad, will be playing a special organ/piano duet before the 11:00 worship service as the Prelude, starting at 10:45. Plan to come 20 minutes early to enjoy this gift from the Koriath family to the congregation. During the service, the choir will give the premier performance of an anthem that has been commissioned in Kirby’s honor, written by Robert Hobby.

Introducing Anna Buck

Anna is excited to join the staff and congregation of First Pres. Muncie. A born and raised Hoosier, Anna has lived all over Indiana. She is the daughter of Rev. Jeff and Julie Buck and the second of four children. Coming from a musical family, singing has always been a significant aspect of her life. She has been singing at church and performing locally since she was very young. It was while receiving her bachelors in Music Education from Indiana State University that she discovered her love and affinity for opera. Most recently, Anna graduated with a masters in vocal performance from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music and is currently pursuing an artist diploma at Ball State University. It is by the grace of God that Anna has been given this opportunity to serve Him as Praise Director with such a loving and talented team of musicians. Her prayer is that the time of worship would further the spreading of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those who have yet to hear it and that it would be a time of praise, reflection, conviction, and exhortation to those who call Jesus their Lord and Savior.

Welcome, Anna!

Do you like to sing? Do you enjoy fun and fellowship while making great music? The Chancel Choir sings for the 11:00 service each week, September- May. Rehearsals are held Thursdays 7:15-8:45 p.m. in the choir room and resume on September 8. Anyone high school age and above with previous choral experience who is interested in joining should contact Kerry Glann (kglann@bsu.edu) for more information.
“Meet the Smiths”

As Pat and Laura Smith get settled in with us, they would like to meet each of us in small, informal gatherings. Pat will guide some conversations to help us get to know the Smiths and to help them get to know us.

Please sign up to attend one of the following meet & greet opportunities in September or October. Sign-up sheets are available at the information desk or you may call the church office (289-4431) to check availability. For questions or to request additional dates, contact Cathy Alexander (cathy@firstpresmuncie.org).

Wednesday, October 12, 7:00 pm at Aileen Howard’s home

Monday, October 17, 7:00 pm at Pete & Franky Voss’ home

Church Financial Condition

Our church is accustomed to hearing from us as your Finance Committee at our annual meeting. Through the years, God has provided the resources needed to allow us to fully support our mission. We celebrate the faithful generosity of all who call this church home.

We find ourselves at an unusual place and feel we should let you know about our current financial realities. As of August 31, two-thirds of the way through the year, our General Fund, which consists of tithes and offerings that are used to operate the church and help support our mission giving, has a deficit of nearly $72,000. In other words, we are spending more than we are receiving.

While we have spent less than two-thirds of our annual expense budgets through August, our revenues, mostly tithes and offerings, are just a little more than half of our budgeted revenues for the year. The biggest contributor to this revenue shortfall has been the number of members who have left our church or have apparently chosen not to fulfill their pledges.

Reverend Dale’s decision to resign in order to continue her education, plus Tracy Clinger’s decision to devote her time solely to the pre-school, will reduce our expenses for the remainder of the year, but not enough to overcome the accumulated deficit. Reluctantly, we have asked the Mission committee to curtail their discretionary spending from their endowment earnings so that we can move some or all of their general fund budgeted expenditures to those accounts. This means that some worthwhile needs in our community, nation and world may not be met.

This is an extraordinary situation, one which we could not have anticipated at the beginning of this year. We ask that you prayerfully consider giving more than you planned to give this year, and to increase your pledges and planned offerings for next year.

We will get through this! We believe God is taking us forward to better days. Thank you for stepping forward with any extra gifts at this time.

Please feel free to contact any of us on the committee (Aaron Burton, Mike Cox, Bill McCune, Charlie Sursa, or Lisa Ulrich) if you have questions.
ATTENTION ALL ARTISTS & CRAFTERS!
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ART & CRAFT FAIR—SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2016

An exhibit of works created by artists and crafters of First Presbyterian Church, the International Congregation, and youth will be held in Fellowship Hall as part of Fellowship Sunday on November 6, 2016. The exhibit can be viewed before and after both services and during Fellowship Sunday activities.

This is an opportunity for our church family to learn about and appreciate the artistic talents of our congregation. This is not a juried exhibition; no prizes will be given and artwork will not be sold. Original artworks from, but not limited to, the following areas are eligible (limit four entries): Beadwork, calligraphy, ceramics, collage, drawing, digital artwork/photography, fiber/textile art, floral arranging, glass work, graphic art, handmade ornaments, jewelry, knitting and crocheting, needlework, painting, papermaking, photography, poetry, printmaking, quilting, sculpture, sewing, woodwork, and wreath making. (If your area of art/craft is not listed, contact the church office or Worship and Religious Arts Committee members.)

All entries must be submitted to the church office by Thursday, November 3 with completed entry form(s). Additional entry forms will be available in the church office. All items will be kept in locked storage. Any two-dimensional entries must be ready for display (matted or framed). Works may either be picked up after the 11:00 service on Sunday or from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, November 7. Table space will be available for any three-dimensional artwork. Please provide an easel or stand if you have one. Identify artwork, easel or stand with your name and telephone number. (Return address labels work well for identification.)

Entry Form (complete one for each piece)

NAME________________________________PHONE__________________E-MAIL______________________

ART AREA__________________________________________________________________________________
(Example of art areas: Painting, Drawing, Ceramics, Knitting, etc.)

MEDIUM/MEDIA____________________________________________________________________________
(Examples of media include pencil, watercolor/acrylic/oil paint, metal, clay, fabric, wood, glass, etc.)

TITLE OF ARTWORK__________________________________________________________________________

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF YOUR ENTRY____________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________

Will you provide an easel/stand? Circle answer: Yes or No

Do you have an extra easel for the committee to borrow for this exhibit? Circle answer: Yes or No
“MOM! Can I have some of your money? I need it BAD!”

Last March, I was part of the team of missionaries who went to Mella, Dominican Republic. One of our goals was to explore the needs of the local preschool and how we may expand our already established church partnership to the preschool in the community. This preschool to preschool mission experience, which we are calling Preschool to Preschool: Muncie to Mella, continues to evolve.

After observing and teaching in the Mella preschool, several areas of need were identified. Few children were able to provide a snack from home. Some children would be eating while others sat hungry. If a child is hungry, learning becomes secondary. Our first priority is to help provide snacks for 55 students. Our students have a snack at school and therefore could relate and understand that other children would want a snack, especially if they were hungry.

Our preschool here at First Pres has always provided a mission project for the children, but this year will be a unique year-long experience. Our children will learn about Mella, where boys and girls their age live and attend school. Our children will also have the opportunity to actively engage in various activities such as coloring pictures, writing letters, raising money, as well as collecting toys and books for the Mella preschool.

I will personally be in the classrooms each month sharing information about the Dominican Republic, the culture as well as the people and children. I will be sharing pictures, facts and personal stories from the trip last March. Jesus says “love each other just as I have loved you” (John 13:34) and my hope is we can foster a loving partnership with this preschool where children can learn about another country, culture and people and share the love of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Children want to help and the response to this unique mission experience has been amazing so far. One parent texted me after school the first lesson on the DR: “MOM! Can I need it bad!” He then showed the envelope far. “Do you know where this state is (the envelope has a picture of the DR flag)? They don’t have any food and I need your money to buy them some!” This child’s heart was touched by the need to help another child...maybe his interpretation was a little different from the way it was presented but he was passionate to help!

If you would like to help us by making a “snack donation” for a child in the Dominican Republic you may pick up an envelope at the information desk. Checks are payable to First Presbyterian Pre-K and indicate “DR snacks” in the memo. The total collected as of September 22: $461.22! We will take donations throughout the school year.

In Christ,

Tracy Clinger
Director of Pre-Kindergarten
Volunteer Bus Drivers

A team of volunteers is being assembled to take over this ministry. The church bus is very easy to drive and doesn’t require a special license. The bus leaves the parking lot at 10:20 to arrive at Westminster around 10:30 am. The group is in the main lobby waiting for the bus (pull under the overhang). After the service, you bring the van to the circle to pick up the group.

If you would be willing to drive, please contact the church office 289-4431. A reminder email with the schedule will be sent out weekly.

Current bus driver schedule:

- October 2: Tim Koontz
- October 9: Tim Koontz
- **October 15: Jeff Clinger
- October 16: Jeff Clinger
- October 23: Jonathan Schmidt
- October 30: Cathy Alexander

Thanks very much for your willingness to serve!

**October 15 is a Saturday evening. There will be a dinner here at the church to celebrate Kirby’s 40 years of music. Westminster Residents: Call the church office to register for transportation.

BEE Korea

I have been a part of Biblical Education by Extension Korea, or BEE Korea, as a regional director for East Africa (base camp in Kenya) since 2012, North and South America since 2016, and a coordinator for Nepal since 2004. My main role is to train pastors and church leaders, coordinate and counsel for BEE ministry, and coach for BEE missionaries.

My ministry addresses the growing worldwide leadership crisis by providing seminary-level Biblical training to pastors and church leaders who otherwise have no access to Biblical education. Thus, fulfilling the Great Commission by providing Biblical training that results in the multiplication of servant leaders, with priority given to countries with limited access to training. It is vital to help equip leaders in these places to go forth, entrusting the information to “faithful men who will be able to teach others also” (2 Tim 2:2).

My ministry is expanded by training our students to train others, a principle of multiplication and transferability found in 2 Timothy 2:2, and focusing on training the whole person—not just the mind—by employing interactive training to achieve true understanding. Paul’s ministry strategy was multiplication through four generations: Paul, Timothy, faithful men, and others as well.

I serve under the leadership of the local church and facilitate training through personal contact and mentoring during regular visits. Students continue to serve as pastors and leaders in their own churches. Further support is given to students and facilitators by developing a high-quality curriculum for Biblical training that will result in the multiplication of servant leaders. The courses offer students the opportunity to grow, prepare themselves, and share their learning with others. The students learn in face-to-face seminars during which meals must be provided, an additional cost to the ministry if students are unable to pay.

I will train and organize for 7-10 groups and visit around 20 churches for two months. Each seminar group in Kenya is between 15 to 25 students. In Nepal, I will organize a graduation ceremony for 36 students and supervise the graduation exam for 20 students, and visit around 10 churches.

I will be leaving to Nepal on September 26th and coming back to Kenya on October 19th. During this time, I will continue to search for ways to expand BEE ministry to west Nepal, organize BEE seminars in Kathmandu, have lots meetings I left in September 14th for Kenya and Nepal and will come back in December. Please pray for safety and health.

Pastor EunHyung Park
Fellowship Sunday and Adult Sunday School

What is Fellowship Sunday?

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 an activity which fosters relationship building.

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

October 2
Fellowship Sunday

October 9
Nooma Series (with Tom Schwartz)

October 16, 23, 30
The Reformation: The Major Players...the Politics...the Affairs...the Good, the Bad & the Ugly! The incredible founding of the Presbyterian & Anglican Churches (with Julia Wadsworth)

Volunteer duties may include:

- Help distribute food at the school site on a monthly basis and potentially bi-weekly or weekly basis (approximately 2 hours per distribution)
- Check-in families prior
- Help individuals take food to their cars if needed
- Help set up tables and food for food distribution (approximately 1-1.5 hours)
- Help take down tables after food distribution (approximately 30 minutes)
- Must be able to pass a background check

Note: Tasks can be broken up to accommodate to an individual’s capabilities

The monthly pantry will run from 4 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (4-5p set up, 5-7p distribution, 7-7:30p clean up). Volunteers can work the full shift or a portion of time. If you would like to be a part of this brand new program at South View, please contact Cathy Alexander.
(cathy@firstpresmuncie.org).

SOS
Support Our South View

Second Harvest is working to close the gap of childhood hunger by offering opportunities to strengthen the relationships between a child, their family, and the child’s school with the School Pantry Programs. Plans are underway now to host a School Pantry at South View Elementary in September and throughout the school year. This School Pantry will create a safe and convenient environment for South View families, and when coupled with school events or meetings, the program will be a catalyst for raising parental/guardian engagement. With this pantry model, families are offered an opportunity to engage with South View while receiving enough food to supplement their family’s food gap for a week.

Since First Pres is already a presence at South View through Kids Hope mentoring, Second Harvest is asking our church to provide 12 volunteers for the monthly South View Food Pantry.

Coats against the Cold

WE NEED COATS, HATS, AND GLOVES

FPC will be collecting children’s coats, hats, and gloves for Hearts & Hands United. Please bring your donations to the church by Sunday, October 9. A donation bin will be in the north lobby and outside the church office. Thank You!
Liturgists

Liturgists for both the 8:30 am and 11:00 am services are needed. If you are willing to serve as a Scripture reader for a Sunday service, please sign up on the bulletin board behind the information desk or contact the church in the office ([info@firstpresmuncie.org; 289-4431]).

Readings for the week will be emailed to you or a copy can be picked up in the office.

Thank you!

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Fall Work Day

Saturday, October 29, 9-noon.

Meet at Command Central (the North Lobby) for list of jobs, tools, and snacks to keep you going.

Bring garden gloves, rakes, shovels, and pruners if you have them.

Thanks, Jan McCune & the Grounds Committee

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Jan McCune and the Grounds Committee would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all who felt called to contribute to the “Sign of Hope”. Your generosity and support were an encouragement and a beacon of hope to your church family during turbulent times. Thank you!

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Dee Dah Day
Join us for Dee Dah Day women's fellowship on Fridays, October 14 and 28 at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Lounge. If questions, contact Barb Ottinger (lkbaott59@comcast.net).

All are welcome!

The Rev. Dr. Pat Smith, Interim Pastor
rpatsmith@firstpresmuncie.org

The Rev. Dr. Myungku Lee, Associate Pastor
9brights@firstpresmuncie.org

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

Tracy Clinger, Director of Pre-Kindergarten
tracy@firstpresmuncie.org

Lisa Ulrich, Business Administrator
lisa@firstpresmuncie.org

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

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

Volunteers will be needed from 1:00 p.m. until approximately 2:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Three volunteers are needed each day.
The Food Pantry begins at 1 p.m. Please arrive no later than 12:45 p.m.
If you would like to volunteer or for more information please check the bulletin board behind the information desk.

Please email Cathy Alexander (cathy@firstpresmuncie.org)
if you would like to volunteer in October!

Please place your donations in the cart in Fellowship Hall.

Salvation Army Pantry:
October donation item: Canned Meats and Hearty Stews

Fall Dates:
October 20
November 17
December 15

Please Let Us Know!
In the name of love and genuine concern for your ministry needs, all of the members of First Presbyterian should know that, because of laws designed to protect patient privacy, hospitals will not give out any information to the church if you or someone from your family is in the hospital. For this reason, we encourage you to call the church office or have someone call us on your behalf if you are hospitalized.

Third Thursday
The Third Thursday luncheon is back October 20!
Everyone is welcome for lunch and fellowship in Fellowship Hall at 12:00 noon. The cost is $3.00.
Call the church office (765-289-4431) or email info@firstpresmuncie.org by NOON Tuesday, October 18th to register.

Please email Cathy Alexander (cathy@firstpresmuncie.org) if you would like to volunteer in October!

October donation item:
Canned Meats and Hearty Stews

Please place your donations in the cart in Fellowship Hall.
November 13  Celebration of Don Ester’s Music Ministry  🎵

November 20  Packing and Delivering Thanksgiving Baskets

November 26  The Giving Tree  🌲

November 27  Hanging of the Greens

December 10  Breakfast with Santa  🎅

December 11  All Church Caroling Party

December 18  Advent Brunch  🎁

December 18  Packing and delivering Christmas baskets

More information inside!