“Chronicles of Hope”
The Rev. Dr. Pat Smith

Chronicles by definition are historical accounts that lay out a record of the past in the order in which events happen. For example, two books of the Bible have this word as their title. They tell of the time period of Israel’s kings and the subsequent exile of the people of God. Israel’s record includes times of great challenge and great joy. Even in the lowest of the lows, hope is still present and for good reason. God was always present and always at work.

Muncie First has her own records, her own chronicles. Some of this factual story is a written account. Some of it is part of an oral history. Some of it is etched on the lives of her people, past and present. Through all of the twists and turns, highs and lows, a story has been unfolding over many generations. With a cast of thousands on the pages of First Church’s history, hope has always endured.

As we enter into this vital period of purposeful transitional ministry, we will write our own chronicles every day. As each day unfolds to another, we step into the adventure of living into hope following Jesus who is the way, the truth and the life.

It will serve us well to open ourselves to fresh insights we need for this journey. In our first months together, we will examine some key insights Jesus shares as recorded in the Gospel of Luke. Each account forms a new page in the chronicles of our lives and the life of our congregation. Each page can show us what hope is, why we should embrace hope and how hope can spring to life in us and through us every day.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Scripture References</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 4</td>
<td>We Work for the Cause of Christ</td>
<td>Eph. 4:11-16</td>
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<td>September 11</td>
<td>Chronicles of Hope: Love</td>
<td>Lk. 15:11-32</td>
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<td>October 30</td>
<td>Chronicles of Hope: Responsibility</td>
<td>Lk 19:1-10</td>
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“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, contact Cathy Alexander (cathy@firstpresmuncie.org).

Thursday, September 22, 2:00 pm at Westminster Village

Tuesday, October 11, 7:00 pm at Norm & Joyce Beck's home

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

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

We have a lot to celebrate as we welcome new staff members: Rev. Dr. Pat Smith, Kerry Glann, Sunwoo Lee, and Lucas Clay!

Please join us on the front lawn for a welcome picnic on Sunday, September 11, following the second service. Pulled pork sandwiches and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to share!

Celebrating Kirby’s 40 years of music ministry at First Pres!

On Saturday, October 15, 5:30 p.m. we will honor Kirby during a dinner catered by Vera Mae’s. If you would like to attend, please call the church office to make a reservation.

We will also recognize Kirby on Sunday, October 16 at the 11:00 service with special music.
Support Our South View

There are four ways you can support South View Elementary

Pray for our Kids Hope children and mentors.

Collect Box Tops for Education (collection box on the information desk)

Provide school supplies as needed (watch for monthly list)

Volunteer at the South View Food Pantry—Sept 22nd

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 catalysis 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.

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 first South View Food Pantry will be Thursday, September 22nd 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).

Second Harvest Food Bank strives to bring community members, businesses, groups, and churches together to partner in sustaining these programs; and with these community partners, such as First Pres, Second Harvest is able to lead the charge in ending childhood hunger in East Central Indiana.
Let me say directly and immediately; this is a request for money. It is the first time and, if God is willing, it will be the last time. But then, one can never tell.

Lou Ross and I have been visiting our children in Virginia and her sister and brother-in-law in Nashville. We just got home this past Tuesday. When we left Madisonville, La. two weeks ago to start the trip, all was well. Just the usual daily thunderstorm and short hard rain. We really didn’t know of the magnitude of the rains that occurred in our area until we were getting ready to leave Nashville for home. The big national news at the time was how many medals the US had won in Rio and whether our political candidates had been eclipsed for shameful behavior by Ryan Lochte. We began hearing from Frederick that our immediate area had gotten a lot of rain and something of what had happened just west of us.

We arrived to find our home in good shape. But within five miles west of us, the flooding was well beyond the 100 year mark and on toward the Livingston Parish area, which is less than 20 miles away, the devastation beggars the imagination. We had gotten about 10 inches of rain here in Madisonville over a span of two days, but the area just west of us, including Baton Rouge and many smaller communities, received almost 50 inches of rain in about 3 days. This area is flat, just a few feet above sea level, and cut by many small bayous (creeks) and small streams that dump into about three small, sluggish rivers that, in turn, dump into Lake Maurepas and Lake Ponchartrain. Too much water, too fast. Hence, flooding beyond belief, and certainly in areas that flood insurance has not previously been required. Baton Rouge, which has appeared now in national news, and Denham Springs, a major suburb just to its east, have a combined population less than 250,000. Yet, they have had more than 40,000 homes flooded, and of those, it has been estimated that than 70% have no flood insurance. Losses will be in the billions, many billions.

That’s kind of the macro view, which Lou Ross and I can do very little about other than to worry and fret. We did, however, get in our truck and drive through the little community of Robert, La.

It is a small place of probably less than 200 homes, a modest grocery store, and an elementary school, in Tangipahoa Parish less than 5 miles west of Bedico Creek Preserve where we live. Everything was/is flooded. Everything is closed; school, grocery store, a couple small shops, everything. Everybody has been displaced, scattered. Yet, they are back working to recover. We stopped and talked to a man in his 60’s or 70’s who was helping tear wet sheet rock out of a house that had drained out. He was trying to make a few dollars so that he could get something to eat that evening. He had lost everything he had in the trailer he lived in; it had water over the top. All he had left were the clothes on his back and his truck. I gave him all the money I had and felt a bit guilty I didn’t have more, but then ATM’s don’t work when they go under water.

Lou Ross and I pondered what to do that would be helpful and finally called the Tangipahoa Parish sheriff’s office. They directed us to a modest Baptist church nearby. We wound up at the Bedico Baptist Church which is near both Robert and our subdivision. They had been spared the flooding and had turned themselves into a distribution point for the supplies that have been flowing into this area. They are one of many places providing direct assistance to anyone who comes in. They have turned their church into a well-organized distribution center for an area that

(Continued on page 5)
Fresh Directions Hot Meal Program

We really cooked this summer!

We are so thankful that First Presbyterian Church was a part of Fresh Directions’ summer food program! With your help we were able to prepare and deliver a total of 2,525 breakfast meals to Unity Center and 5,330 lunch meals to The Boys and Girls club and Unity center. In addition, we prepared and delivered 1,400 snacks to The Boys and Girls club and MuncieP3. Your partnership also enabled us provide 800 sack lunches over the weekend to children with limited resources to food.

Thank you to all the adult and student volunteers who gave their time in the kitchen or delivered to our sites. It was especially fun to share a day in the kitchen with the youth group who provided lots of laughs and hard work!!

We need a delivery driver on Tuesday afternoons, 2:30 to 3:30. Please contact Cathy Alexander if you have an hour to spare on Tuesdays to pick up meals at the church, deliver meals to one of the community sites, and return the food containers to the church.

Lauren Shirey, Fresh Directions Director

Together, we are sharing God’s love through our resources and making a difference in our community.
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. 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.)

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**Entry Form** (complete one for each piece)

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<th>PHONE ______________________</th>
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**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
Dear friends in Christ

Genesis 12:3 tells us that we are blessed to be a blessing - and then, like a boomerang, the blessing comes back to us!

Thank you so much for your contributions of joy, labor, faithfulness, service (both work and food), patience, and prayer this past week as we gave a boost to Darryl’s Habitat house. On Friday and Saturday we got to meet and work with Darryl who will live in that house on Ebright Street when it is finished.

We also had the pleasure of working with two more upcoming Habitat homeowners - Aleisha and her son DaVon will live on Monroe Street; Clarence and Dawn’s house will be on 9th Street in that southeast neighborhood. In one sense, they are paying it forward as they work to complete their own sweat equity hours. Another plus was working with Habitat staff members all four days - what a great team they are.

Blessings to each of you and watch your mail for an invitation to the dedication service when the house is completed in a few weeks. ...and be alert for that boomerang effect!

With joy,

Marty Kendrick

Habitat volunteers included: Cathy Alexander, Joyce and Norm Beck, Jacqueline and Joey Burton, Jeff and Weston Clinger, Jong Koo Hong, Michelle Kaitchuck, Marty Kendrick, MyungKu Lee, Janie Miller, Brad Southwick, Claudia Sursa, Don and Sue Whitaker, Al Wilson, Allie, Amy, Marigal and Tony Yakos

CROP Hunger Walks help to provide food and water, as well as resources that empower people to meet their own needs.

You are invited to JOIN OUR TEAM! (forms are available at the information desk) or make a donation (check payable to First Presbyterian Church with Crop Walk on the memo line).

Sunday, September 25, 2016
at College Avenue Methodist Church
1968 W Main St., Muncie, IN
Registration- 1:30 p.m.
Walk- 2:00 p.m.
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:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 4</td>
<td>Bob Wadsworth</td>
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<td>September 11</td>
<td>Bob Wadsworth</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 18</td>
<td>Jeff Clinger</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 25</td>
<td>Claudia Sursa</td>
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<td>October 2</td>
<td>Tim Koontz</td>
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<td>October 9</td>
<td>Tim Koontz</td>
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<td><strong>October 15</strong></td>
<td>Jeff Clinger</td>
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<td>October 16</td>
<td>Jeff Clinger</td>
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<td>October 23</td>
<td>Jonathan Schmidt</td>
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*Thank you 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 church office to register for transportation.

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**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.*

**Sept. 4**
Fellowship Sunday

**Sept. 11**
Fellowship Sunday

**Sept. 18**
Mission Sunday

**Sept. 25**
Nooma Series with Kelly Shrock
To glorify God, Branches’ activities provide education, fellowship, mission, stewardship, and worship experiences for all junior high and senior high students.

**Branches’ Upcoming Events**

A fall calendar is coming!

*Check your email for updates as events are planned!*
**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 Keena in the office (keena@firstprespuncie.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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**2016 SALVATION ARMY**

**FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR FIRST PRES**

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.

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**SALVATION ARMY PANTRY:**

**September donation item:**

**Personal Hygiene Items**

Please place your donation(s) in the cart in Fellowship Hall.

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**JOIN THE FUN & HELP THE HOMELESS**

On Sunday, September 11, 2016 Project Stepping Stone will hold a dessert auction to raise money to support its ministry to the homeless.

You can help by providing a dessert to be sold at the auction. The dessert should be made by your kind hands (please no store bought items). A simple description should be on the top of each container. Please use containers that will not need to be returned. The desserts should be presented in the following portion sizes:

- One dozen brownies, bars or cupcakes
- Two dozen cookies
- A cake
- A pie.

Please help by bringing your dessert contribution to the North Lobby by 10:45 a.m. on Sunday morning September 11. First Presbyterian is committed to providing 20 deserts. Bake up a storm!

You can also help by attending the auction at Lutheran Church of the Cross, 4401 N. Wheeling, starting at about 12 noon, and bidding on auction items.

Project Stepping Stone is a not-for-profit agency sponsored by First Presbyterian, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, and Lutheran Church of the Cross. It provides free temporary housing for homeless, working, poor families for 3 months or more, which gives the families a chance to get back on their feet by saving enough money to pay for a place of their own.

If you have any questions about the auction or Project Stepping Stone, please call Roger Sherwood at 284-5260.
**Dee Dah Day**

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

*All are welcome!*

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**THANK YOU**

to our Weekly Weeders for all their hard work keeping the grounds, and the garden looking beautiful this summer!

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**The church will be closed on Labor Day!**

_Monday, September 5th._
Attention: All Artists & Crafters!

first presbyterian church

Art & Craft Fair

Sunday, November 6, 2016

sharing &
celebrating
God’s
creative
gifts

More information inside!