This photo ran in the Columns back sometime mid-2016 as a way of introducing the First Pres congregation to your newly named Interim Pastor and spouse (that would be me and Laura). Of course, you can think, “Those two haven’t changed a bit!” and that would certainly be true of Laura. What this photo represents is an anticipated starting point to life together with you, the members and friends of First Pres, and with the larger Muncie/Delaware County community. Soon after this ran, we arrived from the East End of Long Island, New York, to begin our journey with you in September of that year.

I was quoted in that article, saying, “Each breath we take, each moment we have, is to be lived in full devotion to God as we step increasingly into the ways of Jesus. What an amazing claim this makes on our lives!” It went on to indicate, “[Pat and Laura] view life as an adventure with each day as a new opportunity to walk by faith—loving God and people more and more every day.” I hope you’ve seen this in us over these three years and two months we’ve all traveled together. I don’t always get it right, but living on the way of Jesus increasingly in the ways of Jesus is my life’s calling and yours as well.

That article also calls attention to our “deep love for the privilege of coming into and alongside churches that are in transition, times when hope takes hold in new and fresh ways.” From my seat on the bus, I see plenty of evidence that this is precisely what God has provided for many of us. For any way this might be true and real and lasting, I am deeply grateful to God and to you, the people of First Pres.

Our lives have been enriched in enumerable ways during this journey. Thank you for loving us and allowing us to love you and join you on these paths which we have traveled together. We will never forget this time and all that God has done in us and through us, pastor and spouse and congregation alike.

We leave you in the amazing hands of God. We leave you as you step forward into an incredible next chapter under God’s grace and mercy. We leave you as we step into what God has planned for us, too. We, congregation and Smiths, know just enough to know God has us, is always faithful and asks us to faithfully follow where God leads. God’s richest blessings be on us all as we spend our last weeks together and for all years to come.

The Rev. Pat Smith
A WORD OF THANKS

When a pastoral relationship comes to an end there are a variety of ways that things move forward to the calling of the next pastor. We have lived through our own process within this intentional transitional time these past three-and-a-half years.

Every vacant position is filled within our PCUSA denomination in the same way. The congregation elects a Pastor Nominating Committee and the members of that PNC set out, with God’s help and the prayers of the whole congregation, to determine which candidate they will recommend to the congregation.

We passed through this last step on Sunday, October 27th and did so with a sense of celebration and gratitude. We look forward to Daren, Sara, James and Amelia Hofmann being part of First Pres starting officially December 2nd with Daren’s first day in the pulpit on December 8th.

During Sunday’s congregational meeting we dissolved PNC “commending them” for their work. We also want to add to that official language our sincere thanks for their faithfulness in this sacred journey.

What they did for the congregation, and for Daren and his family, will bear great fruit for not only the people of First Pres but also for every aspect of our missional outreach in our local communities and the world. Trusting in God’s provision in all these things, we thank Sue Desmond, moderator, and the rest of the PNC: Ed Humphrey, Jon Moll, Tom Riegle, Heather Rogers, Joel Shrock, Nancy Swickard, Don Whitaker and Alan Wilson. Well done, good and faithful servants!

First Presbyterian Church is having a carry-in lunch on Sunday, November 17, in the Fellowship Hall, right after the last worship service that Pat will officiate for us. You are invited to bring a dish to share and visit with the Smiths one last time.

Dee Dah Day

Dee Dah Day!!

Dee Dah Day group will be meeting on Friday, November 1st, and Friday, November 15, in the Church Lounge at 9:00-11:00.

(Note: We meet on the first and third Fridays during the months of November and December due to the holidays.)

We are studying The Gift of Years: Growing Older Gracefully by Joan Chittister.

If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Ottinger, 765-289-4080 or kbaott59@comcast.net.
We rarely come across a person who regrets having been truly generous. However, many of us wonder how to gift cash, securities, life insurance or even real estate when we do not know if our family will need these assets in the future. One solution among many is to make a gift through a bequest—a gift in your will.

Some advantages of a bequest is that it is...

- Easy. A few sentences in your will accomplishes the gift.
- Versatile. You can bequeath a specific amount, a specific item or a percentage of your estate.
- Revocable. Until your will takes effect, your wishes can be changed.
- Tax Favored. Your estate is granted an unlimited charitable deduction for charitable gifts.

Please watch for planned giving learning opportunities coming this fall from the Generosity Committee.

**ADULT/YOUTH SPIRITUAL GROWTH CLASS IN FELLOWSHIP HALL**

8:45 a.m.– refreshments
starting promptly at 9:00 a.m. TalkAbout wraps up at 9:45 am
Coffee and donuts served!

Sunday Talkabout — November 3, 2019
“REFLECTIONS OF INTERIM PASTOR, REV. PAT SMITH”

“A Stump the Interim Pastor TalkAbout Potpourri”— a time to reflect on First Pres current transitions, Pat’s training experience in Baltimore, the Canoeing the Mountains day-long event or anything these that’s on our minds!

- Nov 10: Favorite Scripture, Books and Quotes
- Nov 17: Julia Wadsworth (topic to be informed)
- Nov 24: Julia Wadsworth (topic to be informed)

We hope to see you in Fellowship Hall at 9:00!

**Bad Art Good Wine**

A Dia de los Muertos Fundraiser Event!

Saturday, Nov. 9, 7-9 pm
Show off your artistic skills by decorating sugar skull cookies, plus light snacks, prizes, and Tonne Wine available to sample or purchase

**Tonne Winery**

101 W. Royerton Rd. Muncie

Ticket: $20
available at the door or in advance contact your church office
COMMUNITY MINISTRY GRANT AT WORK

BIRTHDAYS: This is one of the cards Marcia Gobble designed for the birthday component of the grant. All 60 employees will receive a handmade birthday card along with a $20 gift card to their choice of Panera or Teachers pay Teachers. Thanks to Marcia Gobble, Nancy Barefoot, Lance Scholtes, Marty Kendrick and Sharon Stephen.

CLASSROOM HELPERS: Third and fourth grade teachers recently requested help with students who need extra reading help and these volunteers answered the call: Lani Wilson, myself, Kim Allen, and Linda Glicer. Mid-October, Cathy Wasielewski began taking her therapy dog into classrooms. Kim, Linda, and Cathy are not church members but found out about our work at South View and wanted to help.

VOLUNTEER CO-ORDINATOR: Thanks to Laura Smith for all the work and love she put into coordinating the volunteer efforts at SV. She will be missed! Joyce Beck will assume the duty of emailing volunteers and Gabby will be in charge of name tags.

GAGA BALL PIT: Thanks to Myron & Carla Earhart, Marty Kendrick, John Foster, Asher John, and James and Lucas (from Grace Village), the 4th and 5th graders now have a new piece of equipment for their playground. It is a big hit with the students!

OCTOBER 25TH CELEBRATION: We celebrated the grant, our volunteers, and our collaboration with the South View teachers and staff with a catered pulled pork dinner. After dinner speakers were myself, Dr. LeeAnn Kwiatkowski, Jim Williams, Anthony Williams, and Carrie Jo Miller. Thanks to John Foster who emceed, Marilyn Cleary who orchestrated the event and provided the cakes and linens, and Ministry Guild, who provided helping hands. It was a wonderful and inspirational evening for everyone!

Jan McCune for the CMG team of Cathy Alexander, Marty Kendrick, and Myron Earhart
The Pre-K students experienced field trips to the pumpkin patch during the month of October! Hayrides, pumpkin picking, corn mazes and more were enjoyed by all. The weather has been beautiful this Fall so we have been able to be outside and really enjoy our playground!

Please mark your calendar for the Pre-K Open House! This will be on November 11th from 6-7:30. We would love for everyone to come and see what our wonderful Preschool is learning and making! This Open House is for the church as well as the preschool families!

We also will be having our annual Breakfast with Santa on December 7th from 9-11. More details on Breakfast with Santa will be coming soon!
Sunday, November 24th - 4 to 7 p.m.

**Young Children's Faith Formation**

Starting Sunday, November 24th our youngest children will begin to take part in a play based, age appropriate lesson during worship that goes along with what the entire congregation is learning.

We have a group of parents with kids ages 2-6 years old who are ready to begin investing in the faith formation of their kids. Ms. Nancy will still be available to watch kids after the lesson and any kids who are younger than 2 during the lesson so we'll have the best of both worlds available for our youngest in the congregation.

If you are interested in helping to teach or get more information on this, please talk to Kate Johnston (katieb.ester@gmail.com).

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**Thanksgiving Food Baskets**

Our Mission team is looking for individuals/families who would like to spread holiday cheer at Thanksgiving. Food baskets will be assembled at the church and volunteers are needed to deliver them on Sunday, November 24, 2019.

Please call Janie Miller 765-289-3652, 765-228-5887 or email janiem13@att.net for more information or to sign up to be a basket delivered.

This is especially fun for families or for 2-3 friends together.

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The 2020 Calendar for the Communion Table Flowers is up on the Information Board, ready for you to choose your preferred dates for communion table flowers offering.

(look for it behind the 2019 calendar)

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Happy Thanksgiving

The church office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 28 & 29
Join our team of Volunteer Bus Drivers

We have a volunteer opportunity providing Sunday morning transportation for our Westminster Village members.

The church bus doesn’t require a special license and is easy to drive.
The bus leaves the parking lot at 9:15 a.m. to arrive at Westminster around 9:30 a.m.

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 have any questions, ask one of our current drivers: Cathy Alexander, Tim Koontz, Jonathan Schmidt, and Bob Wadsworth.

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

Ministry Guild continues collecting crafting items for Beyond I CAN:

Bring anything that can be used or repurposed: Magazines, newspapers, crafting materials, jewelry, paint, glue, yarn, old and new greeting cards, stickers, paint brushes, terracotta flower pots, cardstock paper, scotch tape, etc.

Beyond I CAN creates jobs and experiences that allow individuals with developmental disabilities the opportunity to operate a business with assistance from volunteers.

Please put your donations in the tub basket located in the North Lobby.

The Columns

Take Home a Hymnal

We are now using our new hymnals in our Sunday worship services and we need to dispose of the 1990 hymnals we were using.

If you would like to have any of our 1990 hymnals, please feel free to take them from the tables in the hallway outside the Lounge where they are stacked until further notice.

Thank you to our Weekly Weeders!!

For their dedication, hard work and commitment to maintain our church gardens and grounds clean, healthy and always looking beautiful throughout the year!

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES:
10:00 am One Unified Service
11:30 am International Congregation Service
4:00 pm University/Young Adult Worship

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

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

Carrie Jo Miller, Commissioned Ruling Elder
cjmiller3501@comcast.net

Sharon Rogers, Director of Pre-Kindergarten
sharon@firstpresmuncie.org

Lisa Ulrich, Business Administrator
lisa@firstpresmuncie.org

Gabriela Burciaga, Administrative Assistant
office@firstpresmuncie.org

Asher John, Building Superintendent
ashersw@yahoo.com

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

SALVATION ARMY PANTRY:

Cereals

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

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Asher John, Building Superintendent
ashersw@yahoo.com
Some of us may be fans of the long-running “reality” show, The Apprentice. I am not. With apologies for all who love to watch this show, it only took me as long as the thirty seconds of one of the early commercials to know this was not my cup of tea. Competition, meanness, the goal to come out on top no matter what it takes, autocratic decisions of who’s still in—it all left me immediately cold. I remember declaring to my television, “That’s not apprenticeship!”

We know there are other apprentices in our world. These are real life opportunities to learn a trade. A person signs on under the supervision and tutelage of a master craftsman in whatever chosen profession. The goal is to learn everything that person can teach about how to successfully accomplish the work. A good apprentice is attentive, committed to learning and capable of successfully completing the apprenticeship so he or she can proceed on into a career. A good master carefully nurtures his or her learners so they achieve that goal.

In Jesus’ day, rabbis were already taking on what they called “disciples” to learn their take on the Jewish Scriptures and Jewish life based on those words. These disciples, actually the same word as the word apprentices, listened carefully and watched the rabbi carefully. Once they were ready, they were able to stand on their own as they sought to live Godly lives and teach others.

At the end of Jesus’ ministry, he told his apprentices, “Wherever you go, apprentice others as I have apprenticed you.” What a simple and profound instruction! What does this life look like? Of what does it consist? What are we supposed to do and be? This Fall we’ll explore what it means to live as Jesus’ disciples, “Apprentices Unlike Any Others.”

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Scripture</th>
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<tr>
<td>November 3</td>
<td>Small Saints</td>
<td>Luke 19:1–10</td>
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