



**Presbyterian Post**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
 Being God's Church, WE ARE. Living God's Vision, WE WILL.  
 Being God's Church, I AM. Living God's Vision, I WILL.



*Dear Members and Friends,*

*In preparing for my Easter sermon this year, I came across an article on interpreting the Easter story in **John 20:11-18**. Though my sermon takes a slightly different direction, this excerpt is very interesting and quite moving. It is by Thomas B. Slater, Professor of New Testament Language & Literature at McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University, Atlanta, Ga. This article was first published on [WorkingPreacher.org](http://WorkingPreacher.org).*

“These verses relate the appearance of Jesus to Mary and the beginning of the Resurrection faith. After the men leave and go home, Mary remains. Her emotions are raw, but her devotion has not been shaken. When the angels appear and ask Mary why she is crying, her answer makes it clear that she still does not understand what has transpired. She still believes that Jesus’ body has been stolen so that Jesus’ followers cannot pay their respects properly. She does not expect him to be resurrected.

On the other hand, the angels know Jesus has been resurrected and they immediately ask her why she is crying. When Jesus appears to her, he asks her the same question. The readers know, but the Christians in the story are unknowing.

When Jesus speaks to Mary, she does not recognize him because she is not looking for him. She does not expect him to be alive. By repeating the question the angels asked, Jesus reinforces for the readers that the joy that should be experienced is absent here. Often in life, good things come our way, but we do not recognize them because we do not expect them or we are looking for something else.

Jesus then calls her by name (not simply “Woman” [verses 13, 15]) and instantly Mary recognizes him. To paraphrase A. T. Lincoln, the sheep recognize the Shepherd’s voice (John 10:3-4). In turn, she responds, “*Rabbouni!*” There is much wrapped up in this one expression. First and foremost, there is respect. In first century Judaism, teachers commanded immense respect from their students. Mary shows him this respect. Second, it acknowledged that she was not merely a student but a devoted follower. Her coming to his tomb early in the morning spoke to her commitment. Finally, her tears when she thought his body had been stolen demonstrated her love for her teacher. The “*Rabbouni*” was not merely “Teacher.” It communicated “my beloved teacher.”

For Mary, the unthinkable could now be thought. Jesus has been resurrected from the dead.”

*Easter Blessings,*

*Pastor Steve*



# OPERATIONS

## Cash Flow Report for Month Ending 2/28/2026

The gross operating income through February 2026 was \$29,039 in contribution income. Operating Expenses were \$44,779 for a Net Income *of negative \$15,740*. In 2025 the Income was \$25,903 and expenses were \$38,580. Income was affected by cancelling of services due to inclement weather and higher NIPSCO bills..

### **Here is a breakdown of our expenses for two Months**

Administration (Staff & Office)	\$22,864
PNC Exp	440
Facilities (Utilities & Maint.)	17,878
Education	66
Congr Life & Missions/Per Capita	2,948
Communication	203
<u>Worship</u>	<u>380</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 44,779</b>

Checking Account Balance on 2/28/2026 was \$6,478. This included a transfer of \$6,000 from Operating Savings Fund. Donations to the Building Fund were \$1,010. \$6,550 of this has been designated for repairs to the parking lot; \$519 for landscaping; \$25 for a plaque and uncommitted funds of \$11,387 for any needed repairs to the building. In February \$9,931 was paid to replace the furnace for the Fellowship Hall; leaving a total \$18,480.87 in the Building Fund.

The weather so far this year has increased the cost of heating the facility and snow/ ice removal.

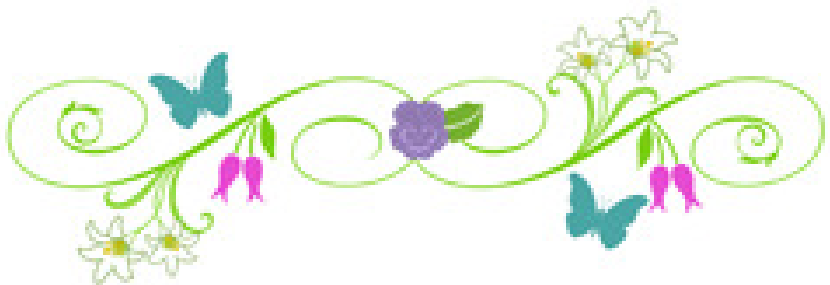
If you feel led to make a contribution to the Building Fund in addition to your regular giving, please use the envelop (pink) in your 2026 envelope supply or use one of the envelopes in the pews.

Thank you to all who have generously contributed to the financial needs of this wonderful church so we could be the Lord's hands and feet.

**Luke 6:38.** *"Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap"*

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Jacob, Church Treasurer



## Prayer Concerns

**Members:** Jerry Kolter; Lucy & Mert Jacob; Kim Powers; Art Anderson; Linda Land

**Members who are Nursing Home Residents:**

**Monticello Healthcare:**

Pat Potter

**White Oak Health Campus:**

Ruth Erdmann & Nina Dellinger

All unspoken prayers

## Service Men & Women

Brian Strantz (NAVY) (son of Tom & Julie Houck); Brad Switzer (USMC); All unspoken prayers



## Friends and Relatives

Jenny & Natalie Hanes (Judy Dowden's daughter & granddaughter & Gina Guy's sister & niece, ); Holly Conner (Jenelle's friend); Kathy & Roger Maxwell (Dave & Tom Anderson's sister & brother-in-law); Ray Dulin; Katelyn Creigh (Gary & Kim Creigh's daughter); Fred Bailey (Richard's brother); Kristin Arnone (Dennis & Roslyn Boyd's daughter); Kathleen (Jennifer Haskin's friend); Joey (Jennifer Haskin's friends grandson); C.J. White (Judy Dowden's grandson & Gina Guy's nephew); Maverick Davey (Chris & Linda Fullerton's great grandson); Chrissy (Fry) Downey; Frank Walker; Greg Evans (Sherry's husband);

Christian Edmunds (Jeffrey Cameo's friend); Emily Fisher (Dennis & Roslynn's granddaughter); Sophea Bailey (Richard's daughter-in-law); Melanie Ventrice (Pastor Steve's wife); Scott Marvin (Sherry Evan's cousin); Ruth Bramlage (Dave's sister); Brothers & Sisters in Christ at New Hope Lutheran Church.

***Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the Family & Friends of Marilyn Moss Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.***

## Sister Churches

First Presbyterian Church, Winamac, IN

Christ Presbyterian Church, Winfield, IN - Rev. Jessica Young Brust

Meadow Lake Presbyterian Church, Wolcott, IN - Rev. Kevin Freischlag

First Presbyterian Church, Albion, IN - Rev. Lyle Ewing

## Church Directory

Rev. Stephen Quinlan	Bridge Pastor
Jaci Smolek	Administrative Assistant
Lucy Jacob	Treasurer
Bill Cook	Custodian
Laura Lee	Choir Director
Marilyn Denton	Organist
Jeffrey Cameo	Media Specialist
Flordeliza Sare	Nursery
Jenelle Foddrill	Youth Group Leader



Website: [monticellofpc.org](http://monticellofpc.org)  
[facebook.com/monticellofirstpresbyterianchurch](https://facebook.com/monticellofirstpresbyterianchurch)

### THE SESSION:

Rev. Stephen Quinlan	Moderator
Joy Bailey	Clerk of Session

### CLASS OF 2026

Jody Headdy, De Anna Paschen; Jay Janke; Dave Bramlage; Dave Anderson

### CLASS OF 2027

Joy Bailey, Liz Rice, Tom Anderson; Jenelle Foddrill

### CLASS OF 2028

Sherry Evans & Dennis Boyd

### THE DEACONS:

Reesa Flora	Moderator
TBD	Vice-Moderator
TBD	Secretary
Andi Janke	Treasurer

### CLASS OF 2025

Andi Janke, Mark Hay  
Donna Thompson

### CLASS OF 2026

Theresa Baker, Greg Bossaer  
Amber Brothers

### CLASS OF 2027

Reesa Flora, Susie Good  
Richard Bailey

### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:

Leslie Goss	President
Susie Good	Vice President
Ardis Bramlage	Historian/Secretary
Theresa Baker	Treasurer

### Program Leaders:

Spring: N/A

Fall: N/A

Christmas: N/A

### Nominating Committee:

N/A



# SESSION NEWS

February 24, 2026 Mini Minutes

The February 24, 2026, Regular Session Meeting was called to order by Moderator Rev. Stephen Quinlan at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room. Eight elders were present and Clerk, Joy Bailey declared a quorum. Devotions for the evening were given by Elder Dave Anderson. The docket was approved and the February 3, 2026, Regular Session Minutes were approved as presented. The Communion Count was 75 in Regular Worship. Under correspondence, the Red Cross has requested the use of our church as a designated disaster relief center. This was approved by Session. The 2025 Church Statistical Report was also approved by the Session and will be filed with Presbytery.

The Administrative Team reports that the checking account balance on 1/31/26 was \$8,435.86. This covered payroll and other invoices due the first week of February. Do nations to the Building Fund were \$305.00. In February \$9,931 was paid to replace the furnace for the Fellowship Hall, leaving a total of \$17,734 in the Building Fund. The Facilities Needs Team is moving forward with the kitchen remodel project with Ray's Construction and repairing and painting the area affected by water damage in the Fellowship Hall. Dave Anderson has identified a problem with the cold air intake and the boiler during extreme cold temperatures outside. He is working with Freje and Patriot HVAC to address the issue.

The Communications Team is working on posters and ads for the activities during Lent. The Worship Team reports that the Last Supper Presentation will be on April 2 at 8 p.m. Ryan Shelley will be preaching on Palm Sunday. Pastor Quinlan has spent a total of 60 hours in the office during January and February. He celebrated the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper twice. He has made 13 Pastoral Contacts. Other activities were Staff Meetings, Fellowship, and work from home. He conducted a Service of Ordination and Installation for Elder-elect Sherry Evans on Sunday, February 8.

Pastor Quinlan thanked the Session and Congregation for the prayers and support they have received for his wife Melanie. There being no further business, the Session vote to adjourn the meeting with prayer at 7:10 p.m. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 24, at 6:30 p.m.

Joy Bailey, Clerk



## WORSHIP

# *The Passion of Christ*

Follow Christ on His Journey to the Resurrection

**Palm Sunday - March 29 at 10:30 a.m.**

Honoring Christ's Entrance into Jerusalem

**A TRADITIONAL LAYING DOWN OF PALM BRANCHES**

Holy Week and the Passion of Christ begins with a celebration of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The people hoped for an earthly king but were blessed with so much more.

**Maundy Thursday Service - April 2 at 8 p.m.**

Witness the Betrayal

**A LIVE RE-ENACTMENT OF THE LAST SUPPER.**

Each participant, except for Christ himself, talks about his hopes, fears and expectations. There's no way not to be deeply affected by what these men were going through. Their entire world was unraveling. Each of us will find some-thing life-affirming to take away from the experience.

**Easter Sunday Service - April 5 at 10:30 a.m.**

Rejoice in the Resurrection

**CELEBRATE VICTORY OVER DEATH**

Easter Sunday Service is the culmination of God's promise to us of eternal life. It is the assurance that at the end of this life there is a far, far better life, a life that we'll spend in the company of God.

Christ's resurrection turns the sadness of the crucifixion into joy and hope. It's an invitation for us to begin planning for participating in God's Kingdom *right now, today*. The simple reality is that our journey is an important part of our final destination. It points us toward the future and to paradise.

# OUR CHURCH AT WORK

	<u>April 5th</u>	<u>April 12th</u>	<u>April 19th</u>	<u>April 26th</u>
<u>ACOLYTES</u>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<u>DEACON</u>	Susie Good	Susie Good	Susie Good	Susie Good
<u>FELLOWSHIP</u>	Sara Phelps Jo Ann Miller Betsy Bossaer	Joy Bailey Jane Anderson Theresa Baker	Jane Harvey Shelley Hay Andi Janke	Bonnie Kelly Debby Green Jody Headdy
<u>FLOWER CALENDAR</u>	Mike & Margaret Sherry	None	None	None
<u>LITURGIST</u>	Ryan Shelley	Perry Powers	Mike Sherry	Sherry Evans
<u>POWERPOINT &amp; STREAMING</u>	Greg Bossaer Amber / Betsy	Mike Rice Leslie / Amber	Dan Flora Leslie / Betsy	Mike Rice Amber / Jenelle
<u>USHERS</u>	Jody Headdy	Jane DeMay	Donna Thompson	Bonnie Kelly

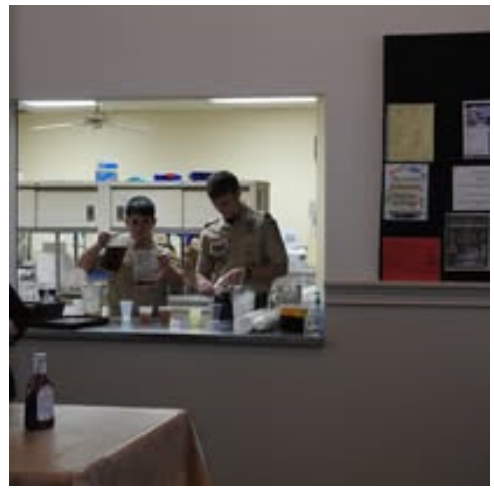
**Pastor Steve is available to serve home communion to shut-ins after church on Communion Sunday. If you would like to have communion, please contact Jody Headdy at 574-297-4075 to be scheduled.**



**The Gordon/Jackson Scholarship**



Application forms are available in the Fellowship Hall. Remember to “sign-in” when you pick up your application. The Deadline for these forms is **April 6, 2026 THE APRIL 6th DEADLINE IS FOR THE APPLICATION, RECOMMENDATIONS, TRANSCRIPTS, ETC... NO FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER APRIL 6th.**



O  
U  
R  
  
F  
A  
M  
I  
L  
Y  
  
A  
L  
B  
U  
M

# MISSION/CONGREGATIONAL LIFE NEWS

<b><u>April 6th</u></b> Mike & Liz Rice	<b><u>April 15th</u></b> Larry & Donna Thompson	<b><u>April 3rd</u></b> Kim Powers	<b><u>April 14th</u></b> Dave Bramlage	<b><u>April 23rd</u></b> Spencer Andrews
<b><u>April 7th</u></b> Mike & Margaret Sherry	<b><u>April 20th</u></b> James & Tracy Creamer	<b><u>April 5th</u></b> Jonni Goodman	Mark Hay	Dennis Boyd
<b><u>April 8th</u></b> Mark & De Anna Paschen	<b><u>April 22nd</u></b> Tom & Judy Dowden	<b><u>April 8th</u></b> Mert Jacob	<b><u>April 15th</u></b> Richard Bailey	<b><u>April 26th</u></b> Gatlin Phelps
<b><u>April 11th</u></b> John & Cinda Wilhite	<b><u>April 26th</u></b> Jay & Andi Janke	<b><u>April 10th</u></b> Joan Slover	<b><u>April 16th</u></b> Lincoln Parks	<b><u>April 27th</u></b> Julie Houck
		<b><u>April 3rd</u></b> Gina Guy	<b><u>April 17th</u></b> McKinley Creamer	<b><u>April 28th</u></b> Tina Young



**REMINDER**

Food Pantry Pick-up  
April 27—May 2

For questions, contact Mark Hay.



## **SOUP FOR SOULS**

The Methodist Church hosts Soup 4 Souls on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 4:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Our church is responsible for the 4th Tuesday of each month. We need to provide at least two people to work and donate two plates of brownies. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Judy Bertram if you are willing to serve.

## **EXERCISE CLASS**



### **Chair Exercise Class**

The Chair Exercise Class for mature adults and those with mobility limitations is scheduled for 10:00 am to 11:00 am; classes will be held every Tuesday and Thursday. Please come and join the fun!!

## HEART FELLOWSHIP

Heart Fellowship will have their monthly meeting from 11:15 to 1:00 on Tuesday, April 14, 2026. Hillary Hawkins will be sharing a program on "Internet Safety". For reservations, please call the church office prior to noon on Monday, April 13, 2026, or see the signup sheet in the narthex that previous Sunday. Reservations are necessary for food preparation.

THANK YOU!!!!

