November 2025 Volume 26, Issue 270



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.

Some thoughts on the Attitude of Abundance

Pastor Steve Quinlan

Jesus once said, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The inverse of this message might be, "Hang on to what you've got, and you will get nothing. An empty sack will be put in your lap, for the measure you hold back will be the measure held back from you." The principle is the same – measure for measure as the Bard puts it.

The question then is what "measure" do we have to give or hold back? This is not primarily a quest about money, though that is part of our measure. It is also a question about the talents or abilities we possess. It is a question about our time, our experience, our compassion and our imagination. It is a question about our hearts and minds. Are we full or are we empty?

The basic attitude of abundance flows from the truth that we are created in the image of God and have been endowed with extraordinary graces. Every one of us has much to give, or hold on to. As the Apostle Paul puts it, "I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any gift..." And in another place, he writes, "But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift." And the measure of Christ's gift is abundance. "I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly."

If I have abundance of life, I can give of myself in a full measure. And what does that lead to? If I am to believe Jesus, it means that I will receive a deeper and broader abundance in return. As it has been said, you can't out-give God.

Abraham Lincoln established Thanksgiving as a national holiday in 1863 during the Civil War to encourage unity and gratitude in a deeply divided nation, as well as to thank God for the blessings—even in times of strife. Lincoln's proclamation explicitly called for Americans to give thanks for "the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies" and to pray for healing and peace across the country.

On the 27th of this month we'll once again celebrate this remarkable national holiday. It is a wonderful time to reflect on the abundant blessings that we have been given, and to give thanks. And as we do, perhaps we'll also consider how we can give of our abundance in a greater measure and so be blessed more deeply still.



OPERATIONS

Cash Flow Report for Month Ending 9/30/2025

The gross operating income for 9 months 2025 was \$140,813 in contributions, excluding Designated Funds. In 2024 the Income was \$144,692. Operating expenses for this period were \$154,721. Comparing 2025 to 2024 expenses of \$143,894 the Net Income for this period was negative \$13,908 (an average of \$1,545 per month). October donations appear to be better than September. However, this current trend is a concern.

Here is a breakdown of our expenses for 9 months in 2025

Administration (Staff & Office)	\$88,687
PNC Exp	2,071
Facilities (Utilities & Maint.)	47,368
Education	140
Congr Life & Missions/Per Capita	13,145
Communication	2,480
Worship	830
TOTAL	154,721



Checking Account Balance on 9/30/25 was \$13,000 after transferring a total of \$6,500 during the month of September to cover expenses and have enough on October 1st to pay the Insurance Premium of \$5,626 on the Building. Donations to the Building Fund so far were \$4,051 (a lot less than in 2024). The balance in the Building Fund is \$32,626 (\$6,400 of this has been designated for repairs to the parking lot; \$519 for landscaping, \$2,119 remains for railing in the pulpit area (\$1,800 has been remitted so far for this project) and the remainder of \$23,508 for future needs.

If you have IRA accounts, check with your financial advisor as to the tax advantages you may have by making a donation to the church directly from said IRA account. In the first part of October some donations have been received from IRA distributions.

Also, those who watch our services on line on a regular basis and would like to make a donation, you can mail in donations to the church (104 N Illinois Street, Monticello, IN 47960) or use the link shown each Sunday on our website and Facebook pages. The annual cost for this service is about \$1,500 to \$1,700 per year. This does not take into account the cost of equipment and labor over the past 5 years to set up the ability to do this.

I pray each of you is blessed in ways you never expected. God is good! Enjoy the beautiful fall weather that has finally arrived.

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/Ruling/Elder

Prayer Concerns

Members: Jerry Kolter; Lucy & Mert Jacob: Jim Wildrick: Kim **Powers**

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); PVT Peyton Chaffin (son of Heather

Chaffin);

All unspoken

prayers



Friends and Relatives

Elain Berry (Cinda Wilhite's sister); Jenny & Natalie Hanes (Judy Dowden's daughter & granddaughter & Gina Guy's sister & niece,); Holly Conner (Jenelle's friend); Mark Skidmore (Dennis Boyd's friend); Mike O'Farrell; Mindy & Jon Gutwein (Sara Phelps's friend); Kathy & Roger Maxwell (Dave & Tom Anderson's sister & brother-inlaw); Ray Dulin; Fallon Wildrick (Jim Wildrick's granddaughter); Kimberly Dulin (Linda Fullerton's friend); Janet Anderson (Art Anderson's wife); 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); Wayne Speicher (Mike & Liz Rice's friend); Maverick Davey (Chris & Linda Fullerton's great grandson); Chrissy (Fry) Downey: Frank Walker; Brothers & Sisters in Christ at New Hope Lutheran Church.

Sister Churches

First Presbyterian Church, Michigan City, IN - Rev. Dr. Ericka Kilbourne First Presbyterian Church, Mishawaka, IN - Rev. Daniel Cho Westminster Presbyterian Church, Munster, IN - Rev. Angela Ryo Ogden Dunes Community Church, Ogden Dunes, IN Oxford Federated Church, Oxford, IN

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 facebook.com/monticellofirstpresbyterianchurch

THE SESSION:

Rev. Stephen Quinlan Moderator **Clerk of Session** Joy Bailey

CLASS OF 2025

Lucy Jacob; De Anna Paschen; Judy Bertram

CLASS OF 2026

Jody Headdy, Jay Janke; Dave Bramlage; Dave Anderson

CLASS OF 2027

Joy Bailey, Jenelle Foddrill, Tom Anderson, Liz Rice

THE DEACONS:

Andi Janke 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:

Donna Thompson 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:



SESSION NEWS

September 23. 2025 Mini Minutes

The September 23, 2025, Regular Session Meeting was called to order by Moderator Rev. Stephen Quinlan at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room. Ten elders were present and one by phone. Clerk, Joy Bailey declared a quorum. Devotions for the evening were given by Elder Bertram. The docket and August 26, 2025, minutes were approved as presented. The Communion Count was 58.

The Pastoral Nominating Team is receiving names, but not in large numbers. They just started receiving names in April and the process is slow and takes time to follow up with the pastors they want to interview. Elder Bailey volunteered to chair the Nominating Committee for Deacons and Elders to be elected at our November 9th Congregational meeting. The Administrative Team reported that the Gross Operating income for eight months in 2025 was \$129,866. Operating Expenses were \$137,626. Checking Account Balance on 8/31/25 was \$9,510. Donations to the Building Fund were \$4,041. The annual employee review will be held in October.

The Facilities Needs Team reports that work is completed on the roof of the church and when all parts for the handrail project have arrived, it will be installed. The handrail on the front of the church needs to be sanded and painted and the team will take care of this. The Worship Team reports that the Cantata will be on Sunday December 21st during our regular worship service. The Christmas Eve Service will be at 7:00 p.m. Lighting of the Advent Wreath will begin on Sunday November 30th and Elder Headdy will be seeking people to light the Advent Wreath.

The Youth/Education Team reports that they have reviewed the Child Safety Policy and turned a copy over to our insurance company. Advent materials have been ordered and will be available to the congregation soon. Bibles will be presented to 4th graders on Sunday. The Mission and Outreach/Congregational Life Team reports that the *Soles for Souls* vouchers for shoes will be distributed at the United Way Coats for Kids distribution. The team would also like to have a team for *Pack Away Hunger* at the Methodist Church on November 8th.

Pastor Quinlan spent a total of 60 hours in the office and at home in August and September. Additional meetings were the Presbytery Assembly on September 23 and a Session Meeting. He spent 18 hours preparing for Sunday Worship on September 7, 14, and 23. He has made 12 pastoral contacts. The Session renewed Pastor Quinlan's contract for another six months. He will start his Bible Study on the Gospel of John on Sunday, October 7 from 9 to 9:45 a.m.

There being no further business, the Session voted to adjourn the meeting with prayer at 7:30 p.m. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Clerk of Session, Joy Bailey



EDUCATION/YOUTH NEWS

Operation Christmas Child!

Help our church to send good news and great joy to children in need by participating in OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD! We will be collecting for this wonderful mission project, October 19th - November 16th. Please take a shoebox and a brochure and have fun filling the box for a young boy or girl so that they can feel the love of God through your gift to this wonderful program! Filled boxes should be returned to our church by Sunday, November 16th. If you have any questions, please contact Andi Janke at 574-583-9848.







INVITING PEOPLE/MISSIONS

Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed!!!

The White County Salvation Army will be ringing bells this year during the Christmas season to raise funds to help families in need in our community. Our church has been asked to help with this worthwhile project. We will be ringing inside at Kroger north door on Friday December 12th. Each shift is 2 hours beginning at 10am and ending at 8pm. (if 2 hours is too long, we can have 1 hour shifts.) If you cannot help on December 12th, you can sign up to help at other locations and times. Please consider ringing the Salvation Army bell this holiday season and representing our church. Our wonderful congregation has helped with this outreach and supported the Salvation Army for many years! Call or email Andi Janke (574-583-9848 or jayandijanke@gmail.com) with questions or to sign up to ring. You can also sign up at RegisterToRing.com.



OUR CHURCH AT WORK

ACOL VTES	<u>Nov. 2nd</u>	Nov. 9th	<u>Nov. 16th</u>	<u>Nov. 23rd</u>	<u>Nov. 30th</u>
ACOLYTES	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
DEACON	Greg Bossaer	Greg Bossaer	Greg Bossaer	Greg Bossaer	Greg Bossaer
	Jane Anderson	Congregational	Betsy Bossaer	Sara Phelps	Donna Thompson
FELLOWSHIP	Ros Boyd	Meeting &	Adris Bramlage	Sherry Evans	Stephanie Dellinger
	Leslie Goss	Dinner	Linda Land	Janet Anderson	De Anna Paschen
FLOWER CALENDAR	None	None	The Peters Family	Marsha Oilar	None
<u>LITURGIST</u>	Dan Flora	Perry Powers	Greg Bossaer	TBD	Jenelle Foddrill
POWERPOINT and STREAMING	Jenelle Foddrill Leslie/Amber	Jenelle Foddrill Leslie/Betsy	Dan Flora Amber/Betsy	Mike Rice Amber/Betsy	TBD Amber/Betsy
<u>USHERS</u>	Jody Headdy	Bonnie Kelly	Jane DeMay	TBD	Andi Janke

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.



Congregational meeting and meal will be held on Sunday November 9, 2025 for the purpose of electing Ruling Elders and Deacons.









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MISSION/CONGREGATIONAL LIFE NEWS

November 6th

Dale & Jody Headdy

November 27th

Perry & Kim Powers

November 28th

Mike & Theresa Baker

On YOUR

November 9th

Liz Rice

November 11th

Perry Powers

November 12th

Theresa Baker

November 17th

Donna Thompson

November 20th

Jim Haygood

November 25th

Linda Land

Jake Bahler

November 28th

Reesa Flora



OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed Thursday, Nov. 27th and Friday, Nov. 28th for the Thanksgiving Holiday! The office will open back up on Monday, Dec. 1st at 9:00 a.m.



<u>REMINDER</u>

Food Pantry Pick-up November 25th - 29th

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.

Fellowship

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, November 11, 2025. Marvin Good will share his experience of being included on the "Honor Flight" to Washington, D.C.

For reservations, please call the church office prior to noon on Monday, November 10, 2025, or see the signup sheet in the narthex that previous Sunday. Reservations are necessary for food preparation.

THANK YOU!!!!!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS



