

# FIRST MERIDIAN HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



FROM PASTOR BOB



Our Mission: To serve, love and grow in the ever-widening circle of Christ's grace. This is how we seek to live. And living in God's grace cannot be separated from a heart full of gratitude. The two go hand in hand. Awhile back, the magazine *Presbyterians Today* had on its cover the headline "Grace & Gratitude: We Love

Because God First Loved Us." The main article says grace and gratitude is a Presbyterian vision for the twenty-first century, and our response to God's love helps define what it means to be Presbyterian.

Charles Wiley in his article says, "The rhythm of grace and gratitude is key to understanding what it means to be Presbyterian. It is our Presbyterian accent on the gospel: all that we have is not by our earning but from God's love for us, and in response we say thank you by sharing that bread, that love, with others. We share it because the bread was never ours to begin with: it was and is God's."

We love because God loved us first. The image of God's hand reaching down to us as grace and our reaching up to God in faith and gratitude is powerful to me. I think grace and gratitude are a great description of who we are. It could be our tag line. If someone asks you what we believe or what makes us unique, you can say God's gift of overwhelming grace inspires us to live a life of gratitude. Grace and Gratitude—a vision of faithfulness.

Another article in the same magazine lists 17 ways to focus on grace and gratitude. I would like to share a few of them

with you. Two Sundays ago was Pentecost, the celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit—a gift that calls us to go into the world living lives of grace and gratitude. Here are a few suggestions on living with grace and gratitude. Add some of your own.

- Write a letter to someone who has had a positive impact on your life. It's never too late to say thanks!
- Commit to doing at least one act of unconditional love per day. Then be grateful for being able to spread God's love in the world.
- Shift your focus from what you want to how much you already have—and give with thanksgiving.
- Encourage the congregation to sponsor a Community Appreciation Day.
- Look for beautiful things that are often overlooked. Jot down one observation and one thing you are thankful for on your calendar each day.
- Begin your prayer time with thankfulness. We often start with asking God for help with a problem. Remember the prayer process: Help – Thanks – Wow!
- Identify people in the congregation or community who need a break: a single parent whose job and childcare responsibilities give them little free time, or someone whose days are full of caring for another and needs some free time.

(continued on page 3)

## PWO Outing

All Presbyterian Women are invited to a lunch out at 11:30 a.m. on **June 14**. Join us for good food and fellowship. Location to be determined.

## Honoring Dads

FMH will honor the fathers in our lives on **June 17**! Dads, please join us for a special message and a treat.

## Recognizing Our Grads

FMH will recognize graduates Alexis Stout, Alia Moore, and Parker Hughey during worship on **June 24**. Help support our grads as they move on to the next phase of their lives.

## Northwood Food Pantry

Needs for May and June are canned fruit and toilet paper.

For a list of all food pantry needs, click [here](#).

Do you have a free Saturday morning? First Meridian Heights serves the Northwood Food Pantry on the second, fourth, and fifth (if there is one) Saturday of each month. If you're able to volunteer, contact the church office at (317) 283-1305. THANK YOU!

## Community Garden

Throughout the summer we'll need help tending to the garden that will provide food for the Northwood Christian Church food pantry. If you can assist with garden maintenance this season, please contact [Katie Marlowe](#).

**Calling All Quilters!** If you quilt (or know someone who does), the church has four large bags of fabric samples from a local furniture store for you. Please contact the office by **June 8** if you would like some or all the samples.



## Messy Church Is a Hit!

We're having great success with Messy Church at First Meridian Heights:

- We had 73 attendees in May, slightly more than April.
- 30% of those in attendance were new, which was slightly up from 26% in April.
- We've had 15 individuals/families attend all three events, which means we're developing a loyal following.

## And Now It's Time to Get Messy Again!

Our next Messy Church is **June 13**, at 5:30 p.m. We'll have a Messy Gardening theme with the following activities:

- Time to learn about and work in the community garden
- Yoga in the garden (adults and kids welcome)
- Messy crafts will include
  - Flower & snake paper chains
  - Egg carton garden
  - Flower pot wind chimes

Dinner will include garden vegetables and hamburgers / veggie burgers on the grill!

How can you help?

- We need non-Styrofoam egg cartons. If you could save them and bring to church by Sunday, **June 10**, that would be appreciated.
- If you have extra yoga mats, please bring those with you to Messy Church, or bring them to church on **June 10** if you can't attend Messy Church.

If you have questions or would like to assist with the events, please contact [Ginger Lippert](#) / (317) 439-6868.

We look forward to getting messy with you at FMHPC!



("From Pastor Bob," continued from page 1)

- Let your gratitude fuel engagement with the broken places of the world.
- At the end of each day, identify something you're thankful for that was part of that day.

I will end with this benediction from the article: "May all of us be transformed by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and filled with gratitude through the power of the Holy Spirit, so all may know the abundant grace of God."

Think about it – Pray about it – Live it

*Bob*

## FROM SESSION:

✚ The session welcomed Brie Anderson of the Indianapolis Algebra Project to our May 21 meeting. We learned more about their efforts to develop math literacy in young people through their summer tutoring program. Our church has hosted the training of these tutors for over fifteen years, and we are pleased to continue to partner with this non-profit program that supports education and youth leadership in our community.

✚ A congregational meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, **June 10**, following worship to present the slate of deacons and elders for the class of 2021 and members of the nominating committee for approval. At this meeting, the congregation will also receive the annual report for 2017 as well as information about the financing for the exterior work on the building.



***Thank you for making our event an amazing success!***

***Your generous support makes it possible for IA to make a difference in the lives of our student and families.***

Are you able to collect offering, serve as a greeter, or assist with communion? If yes, we have dates for you! Please click on one of the links below to sign up. At this time, most of June (in all areas) still needs to be filled. **Thank you for serving!**

**Offering:** [signupgenius.com/go/30e084da5ae2da64-collecting1](https://signupgenius.com/go/30e084da5ae2da64-collecting1)

**Greeter:** [signupgenius.com/go/20f0d48a4a628a4fe3-fmhgreeters](https://signupgenius.com/go/20f0d48a4a628a4fe3-fmhgreeters)

**Communion:** [signupgenius.com/go/30e084da5ae2da64-communion1](https://signupgenius.com/go/30e084da5ae2da64-communion1)

(Adobe Acrobat does not allow a connection to SignUpGenius.)

## **OUR NEW DIRECTORY**

First Meridian Heights is moving forward with a self-produced directory!

Beginning **June 3, and continuing every Sunday through June 24**, a photographer will be stationed outside the church office for a quick snapshot of anyone who wants to be in our next directory. **You do not need to be a member to be in our directory, nor do you need your photo taken to be in the directory! We welcome anyone who regularly attends church with us to participate.**

Katie England's dad will be taking informal photos against a backdrop that Bateman Photography has lent us. Our photographer(s) will be available 30 minutes prior to the start of service and again 30 to 45 minutes after service.

You'll also be able to confirm or update your personal information for the church's records at the same time. (Please stop by the photo station to update your contact information regardless of whether you want a photo included or not.) You can also stop by the church office, during regular office hours, to have your photo taken during the weekday.

Our intent is to have two versions of the directory: One version (photos only) will be kept in the sanctuary pews; the second version (photos/contact information) will be available for members/non-members to keep at home.

Should you have questions, you can reach out to Trish Hawkins in the [church office](#) / (317) 283-1305 or [Mara Hoberty](#).

SAVE THE DATE  
Global Fest Indy

**Saturday**  
Sept. 15th  
12 p.m. – 10 p.m.  
46th & Central

**FREE ADMISSION**

THINK  
GLOBAL  
FEST  
LOCAL



On September 15, our worlds come together for the first annual Global Fest!

Join us as we celebrate cultures and community through international foods, music, art, and play.

### SPREAD THE WORD

Like us on Facebook and share the event!  
Follow us on Instagram and Twitter!  
[@globalfestindy](#)

Visit [www.globalfestindy.org](http://www.globalfestindy.org)

All proceeds to benefit CFI 70.

Have questions or an idea to represent your family's culture or ancestry?

Please contact  
Anne Luther-Sander (317-413-6481) or  
Laura Greene (317-675-6666)  
[globalfestindy@gmail.com](mailto:globalfestindy@gmail.com)

## **The final BTNA Faith Community 2018 Meal and Speaker Series will take place on Sunday, June 17.**

The program will begin with a meal at 5 p.m., with the speaker presentation and discussion beginning around 5:45 p.m. To register for the event, contact [Matt Landry](#).

### **June 17**

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church • 4625 N. Kenwood Avenue

Clergy Panel Discussion - Fr. Michael Hoyt, St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church; Methodist Church; Rev. Steve Conger, Meridian Street United Methodist; Rev. Ronnie Bell, North United Methodist Church; Rev. Matt Landry, Meridian Street United Methodist Church



Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2 •Boy Scouts Troop Awards Ceremony, 10am to noon, Community Room
3 •Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Community Room •Communion Worship Service, 10am •Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Room •Alexis Stout Graduation Party, 1 to 4pm, Community Room	4 •The Algebra Project, 8am to 5pm, Community Room •Mission Outreach Team Mtg., 6:30pm, Parlor	5 •The Algebra Project, 8am to 5 pm, Community Room	6 •The Algebra Project, 8am to 5 pm, Community Room •Indianapolis Council of Women, 10am to noon, Parlor •Women of Grace, 7 to 8:30pm, Parlor	7 •The Algebra Project, 8am to 5 pm, Community Room	8 •The Algebra Project, 8am to 5 pm, Community Room	9 •Food Pantry, 8:45am •Boy Scout Troop Mtg./End-of-Year Activity at Waterpark
10 •Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Community Room •Worship Service, 10am •Congregational Mtg. After Worship •Deacons Mtg., 11am, Parlor •Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Room	11 •Communications/Marketing Team Mtg., 5:30pm, Parlor •Buildings & Grounds Mtg., 6:30pm, Library •Finance Mtg., 7pm, Parlor	12	13 •Messy Church, 5:30 to 7pm, Community Room	14 •PWO Lunch Outing, 11:30am (location TBD)	15 •Trish Out •The Algebra Project, 8am to 5 pm, Community Room •Naum/Huey Rehearsal, 6pm, Sanctuary	16 •Naum/Huey Wedding, 4:30pm, Sanctuary
17 • <b>Father's Day</b> •Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Community Room •Worship Service, 10am; honoring dads during service •Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Room	18 •Session Mtg., 7 to 9pm, Library	19	20 •Women of Grace, 7 to 8:30pm, Parlor	21	22 • <b>July newsletter content due to church office</b> •The Algebra Project, 8am to 5 pm, Community Room	23 •Food Pantry, 8:45am
24 •Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Community Room •Worship Service, 10am; recognize graduates during service •Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Room	25	26	27	28	29 •The Algebra Project, 8am to 5 pm, Community Room	30 •Food Pantry, 8:45am

**First Meridian Heights Presbyterian Church**  
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[fmhpc@live.com](mailto:fmhpc@live.com) ☎ (317) 283-1305 ☎ [fmhpc.org](http://fmhpc.org)  
 Rev. Bob McAulay (317) 513-5148  
 Custodian: Ron Elliott (765) 524-3516  
 Assistant Custodian: Natasha Nix, (317) 960-2619  
 Music Coordinator: [Art Cantrell](#)  
 Business Administrator: [Alexis Gonzales](#)  
 Administrative Assistant: [Trish Hawkins](#)

#### Our Mission Statement:

*To serve, love and grow in the ever-widening circle of Christ's grace.*

**Submission deadline for July newsletter is Friday, June 22. Please submit content to the church office.**



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