

FIRST MERIDIAN HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



FIRST MERIDIAN HEIGHTS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
serve. love. grow.

FROM PASTOR BOB

May is a month of celebrations. In the McAulay household we celebrate birthdays, our anniversary, and Brendan's graduation. We celebrate Mother's Day. In Indianapolis the Indy 500 is a big celebration. In the church on May 20 we celebrate Pentecost, the gift of the coming of the Holy Spirit into the lives of the first disciples and our lives.

We tend to think of Pentecost as an ancient miracle that happened a long time ago, and we treat it with uncertainty, or fear, or we celebrate it without letting it impact our lives. Of all the persons of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit is the hardest to understand or feel comfortable about. I think it is because images associated with gifts of the Spirit like healings, miracles, and speaking in tongues are not as familiar to most of us. Yet all three parts of the Trinity are important for us to fully understand the nature and fullness of God. It is easier to get a handle on God the Creator, loving Parent or God the Son, who was human like us, and our savior, teacher, and redeemer. It is more difficult to get a handle on God the Holy Spirit. We only have images like wind—we can hear the sound of it and see the effects of it, but we do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So we tend not to pay as much attention to the Spirit part of the Trinity.

If we neglect the Spirit, we leave out an important part of who God is and what God does. We need all three parts of the Trinity to more fully understand the wonderful love, grace, power, and comfort of God. We do not completely neglect the Spirit. Every Sunday we are sent out into the world with the blessing of the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. We baptize in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The Trinity is at the heart of our faith and understanding of God. That is why we celebrate Pentecost—a celebration of the church that is sometimes seen as less important than Advent, Christmas, Lent, or Easter. But without the Spirit, the Church isn't fully alive and is sometimes dead.



Jesus called the Spirit the paraclete, which can be translated as advocate, comforter, intercessor, counselor, helper. The word paraclete comes from two smaller words that mean "called to the side of." Jesus promises to be in our presence in a new form. The disciples experienced the Spirit as a powerful transforming force moving through them. Fiery, windy, creative, voice-giving, truth-telling, singing, shouting, awakening, unquenchable—the very being of God shooting through the earth, through the church, through us. A power for good and renewal and resurrection, of healing and hope, of correction and cleansing and love, like no power human beings have ever encountered; the gift of God from Jesus so we could experience the fullness of God. Holy, wondrous, and amazing—the Spirit of God.

(continued on page 3)

PWO Outing

Please join us **May 10** on our annual trek to the Decorators' Show House and Gardens. Sponsored by the St. Margaret's Hospital Guild, this year's featured home is located in the Butler-Tarkington neighborhood at 4140 North Illinois Street. It is a unique 92-year-old residence that highlights periods in Indianapolis history and showcases the talents of local designers and landscapers.

We will carpool to the house from the church; please meet at the church between 11 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Contact Jennie Moy at jenniemo@gmail.com for tickets.

PWO Birthday Offering

The PWO Birthday Offering will be collected on **May 20**. This year we'll be helping Cottage Village in Cottage Grove, Oregon; Village of Grace Center for Physical and Spiritual Health in Tegucigalpa, Honduras; and The Dwelling Place in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Additional information on how you can contribute to this annual offering is coming soon.

Northwood Food Pantry -Needs for May and June-

canned fruit & toilet paper

For a list of all food pantry needs, visit fmhpc.org/serve.

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, click [here](#) to sign up for a shift, or contact the church office at (317) 283-1305. THANK YOU!

It's time to get Messy again!

Our next Messy Church event is on Wednesday, **May 9**, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Join us for activities, food, fun, and Christ's love! See what Messy Church is all about! If you have questions or would like to assist with the events, please contact Ginger Lippert at (317) 439-6868 or Ginger6111@yahoo.com. We look forward to getting messy with you at FMHPC!



Your Deacons organized and hosted our fourth Neighborhood Breakfast in the Garden on April 14. Even though the rain moved the event to the Community Room, the attendance was strong. This neighborhood event has been growing a little each time we have it. By locating this in the community garden two times a year, it helps foster an opportunity for several groups/individuals to get to know each other and be visible outside our church walls. Along with deacons and members in attendance, we had IMPD, IFD, MKNA, Food Pantry guests, Boy Scouts, CFI-School 70 families, and neighborhood residents. As a result, we believe God will use these new relationships to connect volunteers with those in need. Please plan to join us for the next Neighborhood Breakfast in early September, and keep an eye open for the [new date set for garden volunteer call out!](#)



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

How do you picture the Holy Spirit? In Acts 2 the Spirit is likened to a violent wind and tongues of fire. In Matthew 3:16 the Spirit is compared to a descending dove. In 1 Corinthians 12 the Spirit is experienced through various gifts. And in Galatians 5 it is described as fruit, producing love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and self-control. What is your image of the Spirit? How would you describe the Spirit? How would you draw the Spirit? How have you experienced the Spirit?

Look for the Spirit, listen for the Spirit, feel the Spirit and pray: breathe on us breath of God. Let the Spirit stir you up, fill you with life anew so you may love what God loves and do what God would do. The Spirit is with us. The Spirit is guiding, encouraging, loving, healing, comforting, empowering, and transforming us. Praise God!

Think about it – Pray about it – Live it

Bob

Mothers will be recognized during worship on **May 13**. Join us to honor the mother in your life!

Graduates will be recognized during a Sunday in June. If you would like your graduate to be recognized, please send his or her name to the [church office](#) by **May 18**.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Would you like to plant your own garden plot and water, weed and harvest it?

Would you like to join others in caring for the plants that go to the food pantry?

Join in the pleasure and work of gardening at First Meridian Heights. Each summer we grow vegetables for the food pantry at *Northwood Christian Church*.

Please contact [Mark Zwoyer](#) if you have questions or to get started gardening!

FMH as Polling Location On Election Day (Tuesday, **May 8**), First Meridian Heights will again serve as a polling location for Precinct 20-05. Please remember this if you need to come to the church for a reason other than voting; traffic is likely to be heavy.

**A
Recognition
from
Equal
Exchange!**

FMH sales of Equal Exchange products put us in the top 5% of congregations and community groups that Equal Exchange works with around the country.

Thank you for supporting small farmers around the globe!



Have you signed up yet for a photo session?



First Meridian Heights is creating a new church directory! We encourage all church members to sign up for a photo session at FMH. We have sessions on **May 15 and 16**, and we just opened sessions on **June 12 and 13**.

There is no charge for having your photo taken. For participating, you'll receive a complimentary 8x10 photo of your directory picture and a free directory. You will have the option to purchase additional photos during your session, but there is no obligation to buy. For those who do purchase, you'll receive \$5 off your order if you bring in any canned good for Northwood Church.

Please visit or click on the link below to schedule your session:

<https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/yc7kvz5c/>

We're also looking for church volunteers to help make the process run smoothly. Volunteers will check members in, confirm member address and phone information, and escort them to the photographer at their scheduled session time. Please contact the [church office](#) to sign up for a shift. Thank you!

Tuesday, May 15:
Noon to 4:30 p.m. (2 volunteers needed)
5 to 9 p.m. (2 volunteers needed)

Tuesday, June 12:
Noon to 4:30 p.m. (2 volunteers needed)
5 to 9 p.m. (2 volunteers needed)

Wednesday, May 16:
Noon to 4:30 p.m. (spots have been filled)
5 to 9 p.m. (1 volunteer needed)

Wednesday, June 13:
Noon to 4:30 p.m. (1 volunteer needed)
5 to 9 p.m. (2 volunteers needed)

FROM SESSION

✚ The session voted to once again offer hospitality this summer to a non-profit program called The Algebra Project in the form of using our Community Room to support students in developing their math literacy.

✚ The elders are continuing the important work of listening and responding to member feedback on the mission study and resulting "future story." Please continue to participate in active communication, worship, programming, and prayer during this season of discernment for our faith community.

BTNA FAITH COMMUNITY 2018 MEAL AND SPEAKER SERIES

The congregations of Butler Tarkington will host two more free meal-and-speaker events. The goal is to build community, create new relationships, and have meaningful conversations around race and reconciliation.

Programs begin with a meal at 5 p.m., with speaker presentation and discussion beginning around 5:45 p.m. To inquire further or register for the series, please contact Matt Landry, at mlandry@meridianstreet.org.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 20

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
6050 N. Meridian Street
Speaker TBA

Sunday, 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

Past Events

February 25

Meridian Street United Methodist
Dr. Frank Thomas, Christian Theological Seminary; Black History Month. Author of *American Dream 2.0: A Christian Way Out of the Great Recession* and *How to Preach a Dangerous Sermon*

March 25

North United Methodist
Rev. Charles Harrison, Barnes United Methodist Church; Ten Point Coalition

Sunday, April 29

Fairview Presbyterian Church
Dr. Leah Gunning Francis, Christian Theological Seminary. Author of *Ferguson and Faith*

FMHPC on Social Media

Have you checked us out on social media lately? You'll find upcoming events, photos, thoughts from Pastor Bob, and more. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to keep up to date on the vibrant life of our church. If you'd like to post content to FMHPC social media, please submit it to Muuka Muyumba at badlands75@gmail.com.



fmhpc.org



facebook.com/fmhpc



twitter.com/fmhpc
(@fmhpc)



instagram.com/fmhpcchurch
(FirstMeridianHeightsPC)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 • Women of Grace, 7 to 8:30pm, Parlor	3 • National Day of Prayer	4	5
6 • Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Comm. Rm. • Communion Worship Service, 10am, with guest pastor David Jackson. • Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Rm.	7 • Mission Outreach Team Mtg., 6:30pm, Parlor	8 • Election Day ; FMH Comm. Rm. serving as polling location.	9 • Messy Church, 5:30 to 7pm, Comm. Rm.	10 • PWO Outing, Decorators Show House; see page 2 for important details	11	12 • Food Pantry, 8:45am • Boy Scouts Work Food Pantry & Hold Troop Mtg., 10am to noon, Comm. Rm.
13 • Mother's Day • Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Comm. Rm. • Worship Service, 10am • Deacons Mtg., 11am, Parlor • Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Rm	14 • Communications/Marketing Team Mtg., 5:30pm, Parlor • Buildings & Grounds Mtg., 6:30pm, Library • Finance Mtg., 7pm, Parlor	15 • Lifetouch, 1 to 8pm, Sanctuary	16 • Lifetouch, 1 to 8pm, Sanctuary • Women of Grace, 7 to 8:30pm, Parlor	17	18	19 • Armed Forces Day • Boy Scouts Spring Camporee, location TBA.
20 • Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Comm. Rm. • Worship Service, 10am, with PWO birthday offering. • Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Rm.	21 • Session Mtg., 7 to 9pm, Library	22	23 • June newsletter content due to church office • IA Graduation	24	25 • Parkview Graduation	26 • Food Pantry, 8:45am
27 • Coffee & Conversation on Scripture, 9am, Comm. Rm. • Worship Service, 10am • Youth Group Mtg., 11 to 11:45am, Youth Rm.	28 • Memorial Day • Church office closed.	29	30	31		

First Meridian Heights Presbyterian Church
 4701 N. Central Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46205
fmhpc@live.com ☎ (317) 283-1305 ☎ 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, theartofmusic@hotmail.com
 Business Administrator: Alexis Gonzales, alexis@fmhpc.org
 Administrative Assistant: Trish Hawkins, fmhpc@live.com

Our Mission Statement:
To serve, love and grow in the ever-widening circle of Christ's grace.

Submission deadline for June newsletter is Wednesday, May 23. Please submit content to the church office at fmhpc@live.com.



fmhpc.org



facebook.com/fmhpc



twitter.com/fmhpc (@fmhpc)



instagram.com/fmhpcchurch (FirstMeridianHeightsPC)