



First Presbyterian Church

First Press

Weekly Newsletter

May 18, 2025

Our Pastor

Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison

Email: helen@firstpreslawrence.org

Helen will be in the office Monday through Thursday.

Our Mission

We are a community of Christ's disciples who celebrate God's inclusive love by ministering to one another and the world.

Church Office Hours

9 am to 3 pm Monday through Friday.

Welcome!

We encourage everyone to come as you are, be who you are, and be in community with us! Whether you are joining us virtually or in-person; as a long-time member or a first-time guest, we are happy to have you with us anytime! If you are new to First Presbyterian Church, please let us know you are here by signing the **Friendship Pad**. If you are worshipping with us online either live or recorded please **email us at firstpreslawrence@gmail.com** letting us know you joined us in worship. We look forward to getting to know you. If you are interested in membership at FPC please talk with Pastor Helen.

Prayers

Cares, Concerns, and Celebrations

- **Alice Fitzcharles** died on April 28th in Naples, Florida. Prayers for peace for her family.
- **Trena Wilson** is now receiving Hospice Care
- **Joys for Petra Peterson and Hank Boyd**, both of whom were selected by their peers at Southwest Middle School as band students of the year. They were recognized during Southwest's spring band concert.
- **Prayers for healing for Dr. David Hutchison, Pastor Helen's father.** He has fallen again and is hospitalized for observation.
- **Susan and Pat** - dealing with health concerns.
- **Kelly Grube is recovering well from two surgeries she had in April at the Mayo Clinic.** Please keep her and her family in your prayers.
- **Prayers for Myron Shipley** as he receives treatment for cancer.

- **Mary Fischer**, Eric Fischer's grandmother and Melinda Fischer's mother-in-law, has been hospitalized for a heart issue.
- **Prayers for Carl and Sammie Locke.** Sammie has moved to Bridgehaven and Carl is making plans to make a move as well. These are big changes! Prayers for strength.
- **First 5 Years teacher, Lisa Marie Benke**, asks for prayers for her husband, Russell, who was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer.
- **George Crump** is asking for prayers in support of his health and well-being.
- **Ruthanne Stucky, mother of Alisa Stucky** is grateful to be doing well in the treatment of her cancer. Thanks for all your prayers for her health.
- **Alisa Stucky is recovering** from a ruptured Achilles and appreciates healing prayers.
- **Nancy Brink**, a friend of Lois and Dave Dutcher, asks for prayers as she copes with brain and lung cancer diagnosis.
- **Liz Cloutman** is receiving treatment for breast cancer.
- **Allison Clunn-McPlin and family**, friends of Dave and Lois Dutcher. Allison was diagnosed with an aggressive form of ALS.
- **Kristi McAlister**, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, is facing serious health challenges.
- **Prayer for our pastor and church leaders**, for those leading our community, our state, and our nation.

Deacon Family Groups - 2025

A-Ca	Deborah Norwood	N-Q	Sandy Groene
Ce-Do	Joyce Carroll	Mc-Mz	Becky May
Dr-F	Diana Schoneweis	R-Si	Linda Longino
G-Ha	Lucille Eggenberger	Sl-T	Russ Heikes
He-Ko	Mary Warren	U-Z	Allen Macfarlane
Kr-Ma	Lois Dutcher		

Sunday Helpers

Ushers: Vic and Dianne Sisk, Cherie Elo

Greeters: The Oertel family

South Door Greeter: Judy Wilson

Offering: Chris Heider and Marilyn Heikes

Friendship Pad Collector: Petra Peterson

Bag Brigade Volunteer: Dede Dresser

Birthdays in the Congregation

May 19

Rich Givens
Henry Johns
Bob Longino
Tricia Judd

May 22

Carol Smith

May 23

George Wilson

May 24

Jana Tuttle

May 21

Jan Tedrow
Martha Keslar

Calendar

May 18

9:15 am Children Sunday School
9:15 am Income Inequality and the Bible
10:30 am Worship
3:00 pm Evan Flynn violin Studio Recital
3:30 pm Daisy Troop 5621

May 19

1:15 pm Staff meeting
6:00 pm Westminster Ringers Rehearsal

May 20

12:30 pm Perkins Lunch Group
2:00 pm Parkinson's Support Group
6:00 pm Deacon Meeting

May 21

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 59 Meeting
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

May 22

5:00 pm Girl Scout Troop

May 23

10:00 am Men's Group

May 25

10:30 am Worship
3:30 pm Daisy Troop 5621

Children and Youth

• Sunday School Classes for Children and Youth

- Pre-K and Kindergarten – Room 9 – Joan Golden and Nancy Hodges
- 1st and 2nd Grades – Room 12 – Anne Emert and Nikki Barcomb
- 3rd – 5th Grades – Room 14 - Chris Heider and Linda Longino
- Youth – Room 11

Youth Activities

- May 18 – Celebrate belonging at Church at the Lake – 5:30 pm at Overlook Park Shelter #1
- May 31 – We are serving tacos at LINK! Sign up to bring food, serve food, or both. This is open to anyone 13 and older interested in helping. (Those 12 and under need to bring their adult friend in order to help.) Watch for sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

Adult Sunday School Classes

• No Adult Classes this week.

- Beginning June 1st we will be using the **Wired Word** to have discussions about current events in the news around the world. No preparation needed, just come join in the conversation.

Adult Offerings during the week

- **The Men's Group** meets on Friday morning at 10:00 am in the Library. Contact Charles Tuttle for more information at cftuttle@gmail.com.
- **Pastor Helen's Monday Class** – On May 19th we will talk about the prophet Isaiah (chapters 1-39). The class meets at 2 pm in the Fireside Room.

Congratulations to our Graduates!



Eric Fischer is graduating from KU today, with a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies, Psychology, and Jewish Studies.

Addison Kemp, our Sunday Sexton, is graduating today from KU with a Bachelor of General Studies in Environmental Studies with a Visual Arts minor. Congratulations to all of our grads this month!

FPC Church at the Lake – Spring Edition - Sunday, May 18th at 5:30 pm. A celebration of belonging in honor of our newly confirmed members. Hot dogs will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share. To limit our environmental impact please bring your reusable dishes, silverware and cups if possible. Bring your lawn games and a friend to "Church at the Lake". We will gather at Overlook Park at Clinton Lake in Shelter #1. From the church take Clinton Parkway to E 900 Road and turn right, turn left onto N.1402 Road and follow that to the Shelter. Please RSVP on the table in the Narthex so we have enough hot dogs for everyone!





Hello FPC walkers and runners! The 5K Home Run 2025 to benefit Family Promise of Lawrence is on May 26th starting in South Park! Virtual participants are welcome. Keep track of your mileage over the week to total a 5K or 3.1 miles. You can sign up in the Narthex on Sundays May 11th and May 18. If you are not a walker or runner, you can still support our FPC team in the Narthex on Sundays! Last year we had 23 team members; can we equal that number this year? Go Team! Lois Dutcher

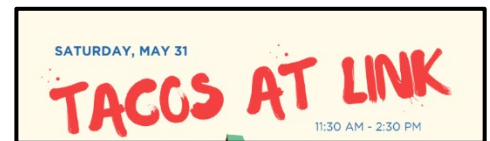
Solar Panels at FPC

Progress is being made and we will begin to see the work begin on May 27th! Good Energy Solutions has a plan that the city has approved so they are moving forward with our installation schedule. If you would like to make a donation toward this project, please be sure to note "Solar panels" on your check or other contribution. We are concerned that some of our federal funding might no longer be available, but we are moving forward in faith that we will be able to cover the expenses with donations, saved utility money, and by borrowing money from our Endowment Fund that we will pay back with interest. Together we can make solar power our primary source of energy at FPC!

First 5 Years Playground Fundraiser - First Presbyterian Church's First 5 Years Preschool will be installing a new playground this summer! The plans involve removing the two current structures and replacing them with one larger structure, installing pour in place surfacing (solid, rubber-like material) in the toddler area, and installing a climbing structure if budget allows. Fundraising will be the main source of funds for this project. We do have a matching donor for up to \$10,000, so every dollar up to that amount is doubled! Donations can be made by cash or check to the church office (please specify that your donation is for the preschool playground), online on the Church's online giving section (in the Designated Fund section with the note "Preschool Playground")



Help us feed some hungry people on Saturday, May 31st at LINK. There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex. You can help by serving on Saturday. You can provide the ingredients for a taco meal. You can do both! If you are 12 years or younger, please bring an adult with you if you wish to help serve. If this date does not work for your schedule – keep an eye out for information about serving in July! We are a hands-on church, and we need all the hands we can get to help! *Because the world would die without it, we go with God's love.*



Summer Kick-Off - Join us after church in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, June 1 to celebrate the start of summer! We will share lunch together, play some yard games, and with your donations we will fill bags with hygiene items for folks staying at the Lawrence Community Shelter! This will be an event you won't want to miss, so come check it out on June 1st! Our goal is to fill 50 bags – we will need your help to meet the goal!

Items needed for the Hygiene Bags include:

- Deodorant
- Dental kits (toothbrush, floss or floss picks, toothpaste)
- Travel size sunscreen
- Travel size insect repellent
- Antibacterial wipes (alcohol free)
- Hand sanitizer (alcohol free)
- Travel size bar soaps
- Travel size shampoo
- Travel size conditioner
- Travel size body wash

Fried Chicken and beverages will be provided by our Fellowship Committee.

Please bring side dishes or desserts according to your last name:

A – L – Desserts M – Z - Side Dish

Summer Choir starts in June – are you in? Summer choir will kick off on June 1st. We will meet at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary on the following dates to rehearse a piece to sing that day in the service. Join us for one, two, or all seven Sundays this Summer. There is no required dress – come as you are!

June 1, 15, 29 July 13, 20 August 10 and 17

Do you recognize this sanctuary swag?

The worship committee is asking the congregation for help in rehoming paraments that were used in our sanctuary in the past. Some appear to be handmade. If you know who made these and may want to have them as keepsakes, please contact Erinn Barcomb-Peterson (ebar97@hotmail.com) or Melinda Fischer (melindarfischer@gmail.com).



Mission



Matthew 25 - Because the world is filled with fear, we go with courage.

Save the Date! The annual Pride Parade will be held on **June 7th**. We will once again don our *Presbyterians for Pride* t-shirts and join the joyous parade down Mass Street to show our love and support for our LGBTQ+ members, family, friends and neighbors. Mark your calendar to join us if you can. More information to come as we get closer to the date.

The Sue Givens Memorial Butterfly Garden – Thanks to FPC members Sue Schmidt, Jan Roth, Gay Groene, Carol Kyner, Erinn Barcomb-Peterson, Petra Peterson, Thad Holcombe, and Linda Watts, our butterfly garden will be welcoming all pollinators and particularly the Monarchs as they pass back through Kansas during August and September. The garden is located on the southeast corner of the church building. Check it out!

The FPC EcoTeam invites you to “A Walk in the Prairie” with Ken Lassman on Saturday, **24 May 2025**, 2:00pm – FREE - Prairie Park Nature Center, 2730 Harper St., Lawrence KS 66046

Sponsored by the Kansas Sierra Club Wakarusa Group, Ken Lassman will lead the tour, explain about the never-been-plowed prairie on site, and how it is recovering from an accidental herbicide application a year ago. Mr. Lassman is a prairie expert, and the author of *Wild Douglas County* and *Kaw Valley Almanac*.

Lawrence Pride Parade - Saturday June 7, 2025 - 11am, Mass Street, Downtown Lawrence

Time to put on your *Presbyterians for Pride* T-shirt and join the joyous parade down Mass Street on Saturday June 7. Adrian Hartsough will be our leader this year and we plan to have a good time while showing love and support for our LGBTQ+ members, family, friends and neighbors.

There will be a table in the narthex **the next 3 Sundays** (May 18, 25, and June 1). Stop by to **add your name to the walking list**. We also have new T-shirts this year designed by our own Claire Lindemyer. Purchase a new shirt or wear your vintage one or your own design.

If you plan to walk but won't be available to sign up in person-please contact Mary Warren-themarywarren@gmail.com so we can add you to the list.



Taylor Zickefoose returns to Lawrence for two free concerts! hppygrl is the moniker of Taylor Zickefoose (former FPC section leader) winner of the Bob Dylan Center Songwriting Fellowship. In this solo performance, you'll hear songs from her upcoming EP (release date TBD), as well as a few other favorites. hppygrl explores her experiences, from the most beautiful to challenging facets, in hopes of connecting with others to narrow the gap between "them vs. me". Get ready for what friends in music have called "a hug for the soul". You can hear her on May 16th at 4:00 pm at the Lawrence Public Library or on May 24th at 7:00 pm at the Lawrence Arts Center – no cover charge for either concert.