

# LIFE @ FIRST

VOLUME 14  
ISSUE 43

NOVEMBER 9, 2021

The harvest of the Lord's field is seldom ripened by sunshine only. It must go through it's days of wind, rain and storm. ~JG Ryle

## Worship

What a wonderful season of the year. The cooler air, the beautiful trees, and harvest time! Harvest time is always exciting. As a gardener or a farmer, harvest is a time when you see the fruits of your labor. In ancient Isreal, harvest time was a big deal as well. In fact so big that it was associated with a feast as mentioned in Exodus 23:16 – the feast of harvest. It's always been very interesting to me that throughout scripture, planting

Sermon Title:

**The Blessings of Harvest**

Sermon Text: **2 Corinthians 9:6-15**

or sowing, nurturing and harvesting or reaping is mentioned more than once in connection with Gods plan and purpose. God has given us a wonderful picture in nature that runs parallel with His plan. He reminds us through Jesus' words in Luke 10:2 that "the harvest is great but the laborers are few..." He reminds us in 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 that "he who shows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who shows bountifully will also reap bountifully..." . We are reminded of these spiritual principles when we look across the landscape of the fields of corn and beans coming in with the harvest. What a blessing the harvest is, not only the physical harvest but the spiritual harvest to come. When we put these spiritual principles of sowing, nurturing and harvesting into practice, it can be hard work, but the blessings far outweigh the toil of the task!!

### SUNDAY WORSHIP - 9:00 AM

Worship Leader - TBD Music - Worship Team

You can now join in the live stream of Sunday sermons by clicking onto You Tube, then typing in FMC INDIANA in the search box. We begin at 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings,

### BIRTHDAYS

Merle Mullet	11/13
Delbert D Yoder	11/14
Adeline Graber	11/20
Jim Rhodes	11/20
Marilyn Bontrager	11/22
Malinda Eash	11/23
Ernie Wingard	11/24
Sharon Wyse	11/28
Shawn Eash	11/28
Jerry Beasley	12/2
Shena Yoder	12/5
Sara Weaver	12/8
Theo Outman	12/8

**First Mennonite Church**  
**PO Box 508**  
**Middlebury IN 46540**  
**574-825-5135**

*Our mission is to extend grace,  
build peace, and share love  
within & beyond our faith  
community*

*Worship Service*  
*Sunday 9:00 am*  
*Sunday School 10:15 am*

*Office Hours*

*Pastor Phil*  
*Tuesday 9:30a–1:30p*  
*Thursday 1:00p–6:00p*

*Pastor Tim*  
*Wednesday 2:00p–6:00p*

*Business Office*  
*Monday and Tuesday*  
*8:00a–5:00p*

## From our Library

Are some of you thinking, I love to read, but I usually only have a few moments of time to read, and I may not remember what was happening when I left off? Well, this week's book is a potential solution!

**Chicken Soup for the Christian Soul—101 Stories to Open the Heart and Rekindle the Spirit.** The "Chicken Soup" series of books is a collection of quick short stories. Read one or several, it really doesn't matter, While the book is put together by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor, Hansen, Patty Aubery and Nancy Mitchell, the stories are contributed by many different individuals including Norman Vincent Peale, Corrie ten Boom, Dick Van Patten, and so many more. Look for it on the table near the typewriter, write your name on the card and put it in the box under the fax machine!

## Philippine Water Project

We're now over 1/4 of the way there at just under \$2,850! Let's flood the water out of the spigot!!



## Discipling



Reminder that if you picked up a booklet this and have decided NOT to participate in this class with the new curriculum. We're using the number of books taken out as an attendance barometer of sorts to predict participation and make decisions on how best to set the classes up for the Winter quarter. Booklets can be returned to the table just outside of the library near the East entrance.

## Board

Working on updating the Commission Directory, the Endowment Fund, and the Constitution. Wanting to initiate Elders. Phil would like for spiritual guidance/accountability. Tim's credentialing is taking a while but will happen eventually.

## On Her Own Journey...

Eva Kurtz is stepping into a new journey in her life, and has started a blog of sorts to share this with others. If you're interested in reading a day (or maybe a week) in the life of Eva Kurtz, please subscribe to her Caring Bridge presence.

<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/evakurtz>

You can also offer her feedback here whether a bit of humor or something inspirational, just be aware other people can see it too!

## Administration

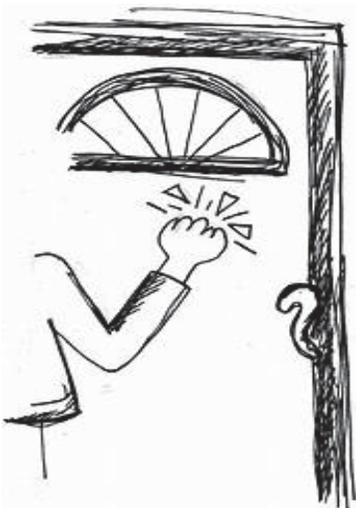
### Stewardship Report for November 7, 2021:

Money Given to Budget \$ 5,560.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget  
\$ 5,047.52

Year To Date Money Given to Budget  
\$ 53,434.00

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget  
\$ 50,475.20



### Guess Who's Coming to Dessert?

The fellowship commission is planning a Guess Who's Coming to Dessert on Sunday afternoon November 21, 2021 at 5:00 pm. Get to know members of your church family in a fun filled food and fellowship evening. There are instructions in your mailbox at church that need to be filled out and returned to Tina Frye's mailbox by Sunday, November 14 if you would like to participate, (We hope you do!) Any questions can be directed to any one of the Fellowship Commission members, Tina Frye, Denise Johnson or Linda Young.

## Outreach

**FMC Sewing November Project** is to support for Christian Aid Ministries  
There are 2 different packs to choose from

### Pack 1

1 box of 24 crayons  
1 notepad (approx. 5 x 7)  
1 pack of farm or zoo animal stickers  
1 teddy bear  
(6-10 inches tall –please do not send animals other than teddy bears and nothing with batteries)

### Pack 2

1 notepad (approx. 5 x 7)  
1 pencil  
1 pen  
3 tennis balls (no sponge balls)  
1 comb  
1 matchbox size car or truck

Please put these items in the Sewing tote near the East Entrance Doors

## Temporary Office Hours

Reminder that next week, 11/15–11/18 Betty Lou will be in the office Monday through Thursday 10–3.

### **This is only a one week change!!**

Normal office hours of Monday and Tuesday 8-5 will resume 11/20. Thank you for your understanding!

### **Publishing deadlines!!**

All **newsletter** submissions need to be in to the church office by **12 noon on Monday**, **Bulletin** submissions are due by **10 am on Tuesday!**

I'm generally pretty prompt about having everything ready to go Tuesday mornings! Don't miss getting your items published in the newsletter or bulletin.