

**First  
Presbyterian  
Church**

# The Anderson Testament

**JULY 2024**



**HELLO, SAINTS FROM 1ST  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ANDERSON!!! Grace to you and  
peace from God our Father and  
the Lord Jesus Christ!!**



**I am soooo excited to be your new pastor at 1st  
Presbyterian Church Anderson!! I look forward to  
serving and growing with you in Jesus Christ. You  
may not think of yourselves as saints, but if you  
read any of the books of Paul - Philippians or  
Ephesians - he calls the people of that church  
saints. We are all saints in God's eyes (even when we feel  
unworthy.) We have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God  
according to Romans 3:23... but we are still saints in God's eyes  
because we have been redeemed by our Lord Jesus! Therefore,  
"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say,  
Rejoice." (Phil. 4:4.)**



**I preached a bit on this verse when you all voted for  
me to be your new pastor. I was definitely rejoicing  
to be called to your church to serve God! Just in  
case you want to know a bit more about me, here is a  
short bio.**

**I was ordained in December of 2017 after receiving my Masters of  
Divinity from Eden Theological Seminary, a United Church of Christ  
Seminary. During the time I was in seminary, I had many  
opportunities to do chaplaincy and lay pastor ministry. I do have  
more than 10 years of experience in ministry in that I served a  
small UCC church as a lay pastor before I was ordained and I helped**

my home church through a difficult time when my pastor/mentor was having health issues.



I have also had a year of Clinical Pastoral Education as a chaplain at a senior living retirement community called Lutheran Senior Services. I believe that my experience and background have prepared me for such a time as this.

Through my spiritual coach and time with God, I know that I have grown more in my sense of call and into being a light in this dark world.

As far as my family, I have been married since Oct 16th, 2021 to Todd Edeker. He is a lay pastor in the UCC church and I love him so very much. He is totally supportive of me in this call and excited to meet you all! I also have two grown children, who live in the St. Louis area (my home for most of my life) after my family moved to the Midwest when I was very young.

That's all I will share for now. I will save more of the good stuff for future conversations and/or sermon points. God is so very good and I am truly blessed to be able to serve as a pastor for the PCUSA!

Again, I look forward to meeting every single person I can in the first few months (after I get somewhat unpacked and find all my stuff!) I will have office hours on Tuesday through Thursday so you can pop in and introduce yourself as well. I may even set up a coffee hour once a week for people to come in and share their joys and concerns. See you soon!



WELCOME OUR NEW PASTOR!

God bless you now and always,

Pastor Joy

## COMMUNION

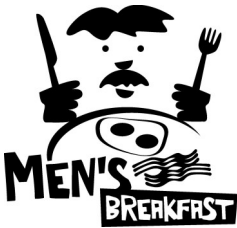
We invite you to join us for celebration at the Lord's table on **Sunday, July 7th, 2024**. Remember to bring canned or boxed food or granola bars, which will be dispersed to the needy in our community through the **Operation Love** Food Pantry and the **Anderson High School** Pantry.



**July 21st** is **Christian Center** paper product donation day. Coffee is also needed. Both of these mission projects are sponsored by your Deacons. They collect and deliver your donations faithfully every month!

## PRESBY PRIDE AND PRESBY CHIX ON HIATUS TILL SEPT

The Men's Group—**Presby Pride**—will take a break during the summer months. They normally meet the third Saturday of the month, and have a good group of men and boys attending and enjoying it immensely!



September 21st will be the next date.  
**FRISCH'S is the place!**

The Women's luncheon group—**Presby Chix**—will also take the summer off. **Anderson Country Club** is the place—11:30 AM is the time, September 12th is the date. **They meet the second Thursday of the month.**



WE HAVE A FACEBOOK PAGE & A FACEBOOK GROUP!

**WE HAVE A FACEBOOK PAGE & A FACEBOOK GROUP!**

***We have a Facebook  
Page & a Facebook  
Group!***

You can look at either one!

**First Presbyterian Church  
Anderson is the page.**

**Anderson 1st Presbyterian  
Church is the group.**



Check it out!



**For YouTube Live Streaming**

[www.youtube.com/channel/UC6pkalwniM r5yyTQhYbulg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6pkalwniM r5yyTQhYbulg)



# Our Staff

## **STAFF:**

- Senior Pastor -  
**Pastor Joy Edeker**
- Music Coordinator—**Kirby Gilliam**
- Office Administrator —**Julie Benagh**
- Family Ministry Leaders—  
**April Groves & Kirby Gilliam**
- Financial Secretary-  
**Ken Wilkinson**
- Organist/Pianist  
**Judith Kimmer**
- Director of Handbells  
**Barbara Bowman**
- Maint. Engineer  
**Mike Schildmeier**
- Asst. Maint.  
Eng. - **Jim Marvell**

## SYMPHONY ON THE PRAIRIE OUTING JULY 12TH

*Symphony on the Prairie*

### DISCO FEVER! WITH ENRICO LOPEZ-YAÑEZ

July 12, 2024

Conner Prairie  
13400 Allisonville Rd  
Fishers, IN 46038

Disco the night away with  
1st Presbyterian Church  
at SOTP!

If you need lawn chairs or  
want to carpool, let  
April and Kirby know.

RSVP by 6/30

Tickets \$25

Fried chicken included in price

Meet us at 6:30pm at

Conner Prairie

Bring a side dish to share  
and drinks for your party!

## Finance Report 2024

May Revenues \$13,535

May Expenses \$21,669

**May Deficit (\$8,134)**

Total Annual Revenue \$147,369

Total Annual Expenses \$249,569

**Total Annual Deficit (\$102,201)**



We had 4 Sundays with two paydays in May. Our pledged, non-pledged and memorial offerings were much better for May. We had no Per Capita donations in May.

**This is the end of our fiscal year.**

For the month, our actual income is about 11% below our budget and our expenses are 25% greater than what we had budgeted. Our total assets in the last month of our fiscal year are \$926,497 which is \$21,823 better than last month.

The market and some of the changes in our investments have helped; however, we will need to do some major repairs to our boiler system and our organ this summer. Our new Pastor, Joy Edeker, will be starting in July. We will budget for her compensation package and moving expenses in the new fiscal year.

A special thanks to all the Blessings from our past church saints, without their gifts we would not be in this stable position. Please consider helping to support the church's Christian Ministry programs in your pledges and donations. Your pledged and non-pledged offerings are critical for us to maintain sound fiscal stability.

**Please pray about it and do your best to support your church.**

***Thank you in advance.***

**Blessings to all, Dick Wohlberg, Finance Chair**

## ANOTHER WAY OF GIVING! VIA E-PAY

Your Finance Committee has established another way to give.

### Regular Giving via E-Pay

If you would like to pay your pledge, or give regularly to the ministry of the church without writing a check the church has a new option available for you. On the church website there is a link to Vanco where you can establish the payment method.

Our church Website is: <http://1stpresanderson.org/>

In the **Home Tab** lower middle of the page look for:

**CLICK HERE to access *First Presbyterian Anderson WebPay* page.**

You will be linked to a site where:

**You will be asked to establish a Profile**

Name

Address

E-mail and create a password

Bank information: Have a check available where you can read the Bank  
Routing Number and your account number.

**Choose the frequency and amount:**

Annual, Monthly or Weekly

Day of the month, week year

Amount

After doing this you should receive an e-mail confirmation.  
At any time this regular payment can be changed or cancelled.  
Should you have any questions, direct them to Dick Wohlberg  
or Financial Secretary Ken Wilkinson.





POOL PARTY SUNDAY, AUGUST 4TH, 1 PM



AT COLLEGE PARK CLUBHOUSE



## PASTORAL CARE—Caroli Wolfe



It's a truly fine day today, a slight breeze to ruffle the flags in the neighborhood. Perfect to pull weeds... not the most exciting thing to be doing on a gorgeous day, yet so necessary. The weeds are spreading quickly and need to be dealt with. As I dug and gently pulled the hair-like roots, it occurred to me that if I had spent as much time **"rooting out" scripture** all these years, I would be so much farther along the spiritual path that God has led me through.

He has nudged me all along to read His Word more, not just read books about His Word. Yes, the books have provided another way of looking at God's Word, to hear what others have discerned, and I have grown from that knowledge. Yet, today while weeding, He impressed me with the need to spend more time with Him, not just in my daily talks with Him, but listening for His voice, while reading His Holy Word. There is so much more to learn, and share.

In weeding today I took a look at, and thought about, the way **we describe weeds**: any plant that is planted where we don't want it to be. We replant the nice ones that we call flowers, and cast out the ones that we consider tiresome weeds, to be disposed of as quickly as possible. Then I looked at the gloves on my hands that protect me from all manner of things: sharp rocks, bugs, prickly weeds, dirt stains, to name a few. My mind took me to the people we see every day. Do we see weeds in our pathway, to be cast aside? Do we wear emotional gloves? What do we think we are protecting ourselves from? Or do we see the flowers in their spirit that God sees?

**God impressed on me today to be more like Jesus.** We are to show loving kindness in ways that may not have been apparent before. Let's all look more deeply into our own hearts and open our eyes, ears and mouths, to be open to God's leading, and His healing, by the sharing of His Words.

**Let's support each other, as we enter into this next phase of our Christian life with our new pastor, Joy Edeker.**

## Wedding Anniversaries 2024



Daniel & Erynn Erwin, July 8th, **7 years**  
Matt & Lauren Stapleton, July 11th, **2 years**  
Ryan and Courtney Babb, 7/15, **24 years**  
Chuck and Nancy Johnson, 7/27, **68 years**  
Steve and Barbara Perry, 7/28, **51 years**

*We pray you all will have many more happy years!*

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## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 2024

Our **Annual Congregational Meeting is July 28th, 2024**



Annual Reports from all groups/moderators  
are due on the **14th**.

Reports will be distributed a week  
in advance of the meeting.

Thank you for getting these reports in on time.



# Birthdays 2024

7/4 Marian Betts  
7/5 Chuck Johnson, Nancy Mitchell  
7/9 Sharon Fleck, Copeland Groves,  
Susie Reed  
7/10 Sandra Davisson  
7/11 Jayne Beeler  
7/13 Lois George  
7/17 Michael Cowger  
7/18 Jo Hussle, Maran Bostic  
7/19 Lesley Henning  
7/20 Joan Godfrey  
7/22 Greg Noland  
7/25 Brad Rayl  
7/27 Aiden Godfrey,  
Angela Haygood, Patsy Woschitz



## NEWSLETTER INFO



- Deadline is the **20th** of each month.
- Complete the Newsletter form and place it in the church office, directly in Julie Benagh's mailbox in the Conference Room OR -

e-mail to Julie at

**1stPres@1stPresAnderson.org**

## First Presbyterian Church

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Web: [www.1stPresAnderson.org](http://www.1stPresAnderson.org)

Facebook:

First Presbyterian Church Anderson

Growing in Christ



### *Dates to Remember:*

**July 4th**—Independence Day—church office closed.

**July 6th**— CRAFT DAY

**July 7th**—Communion—Our new pastor Joy Edeker giving the message!

**July 12th**—Symphony on the Prairie  
Outing - Disco Fever

**July 28th**—ANNUAL MEETING

**August 4th** - All church Swim Party at  
College Park Clubhouse—1 PM

**August 24th** - Madison Co. Gaslight Festival

**August 30th** - Youth Serving Christ Golf  
Scramble @ Grandview Golf Course

**September 17th**—Annual Blood Drive @  
First Pres

*Scheduled to assist Pastor Joy Edeker serving  
communion on **July 7th** is **Myra Compton**.*

Coffee Fellowship & Ushering will be staffed  
by your Deacons.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**10 AM WORSHIP**

