



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
of Fort Wayne, Indiana



July 2023  
Newsletter

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**Sunday:**

Bible Study—9:00 AM  
Worship—10:00 AM

## Pastor's Corner

By Pastor Peter Janzen

“Here Comes the Sun” is my favorite Beatles song. It was written by George Harrison. He is my favorite Beatle. The circumstances of how and where this song was written are intriguing. George was taking a break from the band and was visiting Eric Clapton, also a famous musician from Britain. While walking around the farm where the Clapton family lived in April 1969, George composed “Here Comes the Sun”! It is part of the last album produced by the Beatles, namely “Abbey Road.” I encourage you to go to U-Tube and check out the video made to go with the song. This song is the number one Beatles’ song that is downloaded on all Social Media platforms. As of 2021, George Harrison has surpassed John, Paul and Ringo in popularity.

To me, the season of Summer that we are currently in is something to appreciate daily. What is the Summer season typically? It is the season of recreation for many of us. Certainly school is out and family vacations are likely. Summer is also the season for growing food, plants and crops. Genesis 1:1-2:3 speaks to this “*In the beginning, God...*”. I encourage all of us to grow in our relationship with God and the Creation this Summer. Take time to memorize scripture like Psalm 23. Ask yourself, how is God my Shepherd? What green pastures and still waters is God leading me and my family to enjoy? Where is my rest?

My prayer for all First Baptist Church members and family and friends is to enjoy the good earth that God in Christ had granted us the opportunity to enjoy!!

Shalom and Peace in Christ.  
Pastor Peter



# Letters From Your Church Family

*Hello Everybody!*

*Thank you very much for the birthday cards and greetings. It is nice to know I am missed. I also miss First Baptist Church and everyone. I miss Fort Wayne and my old neighborhood. After Susan passed, my son Jim and his wife didn't like me living alone in the house. They kept insisting I move in with Henry and that is what I did. I am where I belong. Everything is great with us. And they do too much for me. I am thankful for all they do. The Good Lord has been good to me. On June 23<sup>rd</sup> I will be 99. I also want to thank Pastor Peter for his card & letter. I hope to get back some time for a visit.*

*In Christian Love,  
Hugh Wallis*

*Greetings to one and all!*

*Sorry I've not been in touch in such a long time! I've had many health challenges but the Lord is ever faithful!*

*God bless you richly and guide to bringing others to Jesus!*

*Gail Surfus*



## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Henry Janzen (Peter's brother)—skin cancer (stage 4) & lymph cancer—will begin radiation therapy and will resume immunotherapy. Please pray for Henry and his wife Joan as treatment continues.
- Don Schaab—had complications from hernia surgery, continued prayers
- The Schaab family as they grieve the loss of Don's sister on June 6<sup>th</sup>
- Larry Bailey—continued prayers
- Brenda Edwards—continued prayers
- Julie Robinson—back pain, continued prayers
- Lester Marker—moved to Pine Valley Lutheran Life Villages
- Becky (Nancy's sister)—pancreatic cancer
- Sandra (Susan Elser's friend)—cancer, continued prayers
- Diana (Brenda Routhier's sister)—continued prayers
- Seth (Vaunetta's grandson) and Vaunetta—continued prayers
- Dr Kerley (Vaunetta's former employer)—going to Mayo clinic July 5
- Sue Kerley (Dr Kerley's wife)—moving to St Anne's soon



# Shoebboxes

**JOY:** a feeling of great pleasure and happiness.

I think most people would agree with that simple definition.

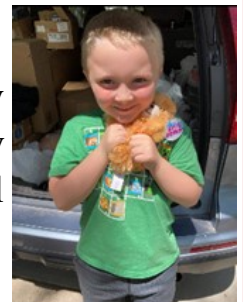
I recently texted someone “What Joy! What Joy! What Joy!” after checking our storage room and found lots of shoebox stuff. Her response was “The joy of the Lord is often found in stuff – especially shoebox stuff! That is so true.

One of the countries our shoeboxes went to was Ghana. Recently I received an email from a recipient.



Bridget wrote that her 9 year old daughter Cinna received a box. She was very happy to receive it. Here is a picture of Cinna with her mother and siblings, Phoebe, 6, and Jannai, 7 months. Bridget thanks us and asks for more prayers for Cinna and other children of Africa.

Let me introduce you to a very special young man, 7 year old Ben, Peggy Richter’s grandson. Recently Ben was helping Peggy take tags off of teddy bears for the shoeboxes and he decided to give each furry animal an individual hug. He wanted each boy or girl to feel that love. In this way, Ben learned the joy of doing good.



I’ve put several work days on the calendar so we can keep on track with our work. Here are the dates:

July 10 and 19

Aug 4, 14 and 31

Sept 5, 14 and 25



Welcome Table is a partnership between United Faith Presbyterian Church, Peace UCC, and North Christian Church. We would like to invite you to dine or volunteer for our no-cost, pop-up restaurant. It's a pop-up community restaurant. For everyone!

When you enter the fellowship hall, you'll be greeted by a host, who will ask you how many are in your group. You'll be seated at a long table and given a menu.

It might feel odd to not choose a spot and sit down wherever you like...but we do this to ensure that we all get to meet new people...and it makes us feel better to know that there are no cliques or loners. You'll have an opportunity to strike up a conversation with your neighbor while you make your selections from the menu. Someone will come to offer you something to drink and offer salad with a choice of dressing.

A server will take your order and answer any questions. Your meal will be brought to you on stoneware plates, your server will check on you several times throughout your meal, and hopefully, you'll make a new friend or two.

At the end of the meal, there will be no bill, just a friendly farewell as your server clears your plates. Neighbors and members of our congregations are encouraged to come and dine, or to volunteer! We need bakers to make desserts and people to help set up, serve, and clean up. Eventually we will be If you would like to volunteer for Welcome Table, please email Pastor Kate Howard at [revpenney@gmail.com](mailto:revpenney@gmail.com).

Upcoming Welcome Table dates are July 10, 24, Aug 14, 28, Sep 11, 25, Oct 9, Dec. 4, Dec 18. We are open from 5:30-6:45 pm at 1616 W. Main.

This month's menus are:

July 10: Roasted Smoked Sausage(GF), Chicken Enchilada Casserole (GF), Mushroom & Garlic Spaghetti with chicken, Tater Tot Casserole (GF)

July 24: Chicken Tortellini bake, Zucchini Mushroom pasta with chicken (GF), Chili Colorado Burrito, Lemon Salmon with rice pilaf & roasted veggies (GF)

Rev. Kate Penney Howard  
Senior Pastor  
North Christian Church  
Fort Wayne, IN





# First Baptist Church

## July 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Srvc. <b>Communion</b> Coffee Hour— Susan Elser	3	4 	5	6	7	8
9 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Srvc. <b>Noisy Offering</b> Coffee Hour— The Noaks	10 <b>10-3 SHOEBOX WORKDAY</b>	11	12	13	14	15
16 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Srvc. Coffee Hour— The Stoners <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY JULIE ROBINSON!!</b>	17 <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY VAUNETTA BARNHILL!!</b>	18	19 <b>10-3 SHOEBOX WORKDAY</b>	20 <b>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY DON &amp; JOYCE SCHAAB!!</b>	21	22 <b>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY LARRY &amp; JOYCE BAILEY!!</b>
23 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Srvc. Coffee Hour— Janet Welch <b>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY DICK &amp; CEC PLUMB!!</b>	24 <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY JANET LEFFEL!!</b>	25 <b>6:00 PM Council Meeting</b>	26	27	28	29
30 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Srvc. <b>SALAD SUNDAY</b>	31					