



8:30am and 11am Worship Services
through Sunday, May 10, 2026



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORMAL

September 14, 2025

11am Worship Service

**If you're NEW, see the
Welcome Center for
your FREE gift**



**SEPTEMBER 14, 2025
11AM ORDER OF WORSHIP**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Matt Wilcox

SONG Blessed Be Your Name

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Julia White

SONG Kindness

SCRIPTURE Matthew 14:13-21

Dave Cobert

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Kelli Owens

SCRIPTURE Ruth 2:2-20

Pastor Karol Schilling

MESSAGE Big Little Things: Kind Like Christ

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

SONG Goodness Of God

COMMUNITY PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Matt Wilcox

OFFERING INVITATION

Dave Cobert

OFFERING REFLECTION

SONG My Lighthouse

BLESSING

Pastor Karol Schilling

THE FLOWERS WERE DONATED BY:

Carole and Jerry Ringer, in memory of Burnett and Frances Ringer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark you calendars and get plugged in!

TODAY | FLOURISHING: GREEN TEAM-LED DISCUSSION SERIES

Join us on Sundays at 9:45am in the Lounge for a 3-week discussion series on themes from the short book, *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Please sign up on the website. Contact Sarah Jome for more information.

TODAY | RUMMAGE SALE SIGN-UPS! PLEASE VOLUNTEER - IT'S FUN!

Volunteers are needed the week of Sept. 28 to help prepare for our upcoming Rummage Sale on October 3 and 4. You can sign up to volunteer today and next Sunday. We also need volunteers on the days of the sale and on Saturday afternoon to clean up. Many volunteers are needed! Please stop by the table or contact Carol Morris at bctnk@hotmail.com. The Youth Group can assist those who need help getting their donations to the church. Sign up to receive a Sunday evening pick-up time or contact Kelli at kowens@firstpresnormal.org.



TODAY | BIG GIVE DONATIONS THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28

The Big Give community-wide food drive is an opportunity for us to provide Thanksgiving meal boxes to 2,000+ people in need in Bloomington-Normal. We will be collecting food donations through Sunday, September 28. Please bring your donations and add them to the collection in the Sanctuary. The shopping list is available outside the Sanctuary, under the TV, online, and in this bulletin.

TODAY | STORY STROLL

The Green Team is hosting their fourth Story Stroll using the book, *Mrs. Spitzer's Garden*. The storyboards are up and we invite you to think and talk about the work and joys of growing, tending, and harvesting a garden!

SEPTEMBER 15 | WOMEN'S BLESSINGS BIBLE STUDY

Join us on Mondays, 6-7pm in the Lounge as we study the New Testament book of Hebrews. This book teaches us that Jesus is better, Christianity is all we need, and Christ is sufficient for our salvation. Learn how to apply this powerful message to our lives. Sign up online by Sept. 14. Contact Irene DenBesten for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark your calendars and get plugged in!

SEPTEMBER 16 | HANDBELL RINGERS NEEDED!

Attend “Intro to Bells” on Tues, Sept. 16 at 6:30pm. Please RSVP to Phil Enge if you can make it at penge@firstpresnormal.org. It’s fun and instruction is provided!

SEPTEMBER 20 | PARENTS’ NIGHT OUT (NUT-FREE FACILITY)

PNO is Saturday, September 20, 5-8pm. This event gives parents an opportunity for an evening to themselves. The cost is \$5 per child with a \$10 family maximum (due at drop off). Please have the children enter through the College Avenue entrance (door C), and they will be buzzed in and led downstairs by our childcare coordinator. We do feed the kids a snack, but feel free to bring dinner for your children.

SEPTEMBER 26 | AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The American Red Cross will be here at church on Friday, September 26 for a Blood Drive from 1:30-5:30pm in the Great Hall. If you’d like to sign up to donate blood, please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org. Thank you!

OCTOBER 1 | BIBLE IN A YEAR - READ THE NEW TESTAMENT WITH US!

On October 1, we’ll finally reach the New Testament! If you haven’t been reading along, this is a great time to jump in! We’ll follow a daily reading program (with accompanying videos/podcasts) that completes the New Testament by the end of 2025. We plan to continue Sunday morning and Wednesday afternoon discussions. Contact Sheila at (sheilamelzer49@gmail.com) or Matt at (boilermatt@hotmail.com) to get started.

SABBATICAL NEWSLETTER

A special issue of the church newsletter has been shared with the congregation via email, providing details about Pastor Matt’s upcoming sabbatical. Printed copies are available outside the Sanctuary. We hope this information is helpful and invite you to pray for Pastor Matt, our dedicated staff, and our congregation.

SIGN-UP OPPORTUNITIES

We are in need of volunteers to help with: ushering, liturgy, bulletin stuffing, newsletter stuffing, Time With Children, Welcome Center, and more! Please see the “Sign-Up” QR code on the back of this bulletin or the website for more information.



Please join Home Sweet Home Ministries, Midwest Food Bank, and Thrivent Financial as we come together to collect items for Thanksgiving meal boxes. Donations can be brought to the church through Sept. 28th and placed in the Sanctuary on the table.

- ☐ 1 Box of stuffing mix
- ☐ 2 Cans of corn
- ☐ 2 Cans of green beans
- ☐ 2 Cans of cream of mushroom
- ☐ 1 Box of mashed potatoes
- ☐ 1 Envelope of gravy (no jars, please)
- ☐ 1 Regular pouch of french fried onions
- ☐ 1 Can of cranberry sauce
- ☐ 1 Box of pie crust mix
- ☐ 1 Can of pumpkin pie
- ☐ 1 Can of evaporated milk
- ☐ 1 Gift card for a frozen turkey

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sun. Sept. 14	9:30am 9:45am 11am 5:30pm 5:30pm	Coffee Fellowship Sunday School/Discipleship for All Ages Contemporary Worship Service Sanctuary Alpha Small Group Library Youth Group High School Room
Mon. Sept. 15	6pm	Blessings Hebrews Study Lounge
Tue Sept. 16	2:45pm 6:30pm	PASS After School Program Great Hall Intro to Bells Lounge
Wed. Sept. 17	1pm 4:30pm 6:30pm	Bible in a Year Discussion Group Library Worship Band Rehearsal Sanctuary Chancel Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary
Thu. Sept. 18	9am 2:45pm 6pm	Book Group Library PASS After School Program Great Hall New Women Small Group Library
Fri. Sept. 19	11am	Worship Band Rehearsal Sanctuary

CONTACT OUR CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor-Matt Wilcox.....mwilcox@firstpresnormal.org
 Associate Pastor-Karol Schilling.....kschilling@firstpresnormal.org
 Director of Music-Phil Enge.....penge@firstpresnormal.org
 Director of Family Ministry-Kelli Owens.....kowens@firstpresnormal.org
 Director of Playmates Preschool-Robin Schaefer.....rschaefer@firstpresnormal.org
 Childcare Coordinator-Tristan Bishop.....tcb.bishop@gmail.com
 Financial Coordinator-Priscilla Montalvo.....pmontalvo@firstpresnormal.org
 Administrative Assistant-Anne Lunt.....alunt@firstpresnormal.org
 A/V Technician-Tyler Gatto.....tgatto@firstpresnormal.org
 Property Manager-John Anderson.....janderson@firstpresnormal.org

WEBSITE

 (309) 452-4459

FACEBOOK

 info@firstpresnormal.org

INSTAGRAM

 firstpresnormal.org

SIGN-UPS




Scan the QR code with your phone's camera. When a link pops up, tap it with your finger.

We affirm that all people are children of God and are created in the image of God. Believing this, we welcome all individuals into the life, community, and ministry of First Pres. This includes people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, physical or mental ability, economic status, political belief, background, and past experience. No one is excluded, marginalized, or held outside the warm welcome of this congregation. You can find our full statement of affirmation & inclusion on our website.