

DISCOVER FIRST

First Presbyterian Church



NEWS RELEASE

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ANNOUNCES NEW “MINISTRY OF ENCOURAGEMENT”

Goshen, Indiana ...The First Presbyterian Church of Goshen today announced a new **“Operation 320: a Ministry of Encouragement”** to guide local families through rental and home ownership journeys.

As a long time supporter of Habitat for Humanity, the church applauds the organization for its stabilization of local families through financial education and the building of a home. But home ownership is not always achievable in the short term, “so we are embarking on a mission to help local families secure qualified rental properties as an interim solution,” stated Pastor Alan Griffin. The church’s ministry program will work through the Goshen Housing Authority, an affiliate of North Central Indiana Housing Authority. The Goshen Housing Authority is a source of federal funding to assist in the payment of rent and utility bills at well-maintained rental units in the community. It is currently authorized to assist 320 local families.

“We see this ministry to be one of support and encouragement as we guide eligible families through the somewhat complex application process, and help them maintain eligibility throughout their rental experience,” said Griffin. “It’s a natural extension of other Discover-First ministries already in place and the work of our Foundation.”

The church plans a modest start, helping a few families at the beginning, and building to an ongoing ministry for families in need. They see rental assistance as a beginning pathway to future home ownership for many families.

To launch the new ministry and celebrate how our community supports fair housing, First Presbyterian Church will host the Goshen Housing Authority on First Friday’s Green Day Frolic - April 4th from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Housing authority representatives will have housing assistance applications available for new applicants and information for landlords seeking participation in the rental program.

All those interested in the Goshen Housing Authority program are encouraged to attend.

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