

The *Presbyter*

March-April 2017 • Volume 46, No. 2



KALAMAZOO
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

321 West South Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007-4708

Telephone: (269) 344-0119 • **Fax:** (269) 344-4645 • **Website:** www.sanctuaryinthecity.org

PRESBYTER HIGHLIGHTS—

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Presbyter

March-April 2017

February 22, 2017

Vol. 46, No. 2

321 West South St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

(269) 344-0119

www.sanctuaryinthecity.org

WORSHIP OVERVIEW

Sunday Worship is at 10:30 a.m.

February 26

Transfiguration Sunday

The Rev. Kathleen Robertson King
Exodus 24:12-18; Matthew 17:1-9

March 5

First Sunday of Lent

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7;
Matthew 4:1-11

March 12

Second Sunday of Lent

The Rev. Dr. David W. McShane
John 3:1-17; Genesis 12:1-4a

March 19

Third Sunday of Lent

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Exodus 17:1-7; John 4:5-42

March 26

Fourth Sunday of Lent

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
1 Samuel 16:1-13; John 9:1-41

The Worship Overview
for April is on page 2.

Please refer to page 2
for details about activities
during Holy week.

*Grounded in living faith,
receiving diversity as a gift,
we seek to reflect Christ's light
in God's world.*

*Continually discerning God's
vision of grace and peace,
we share inspirational worship,
spiritual nurture, compassionate
service to others, and the pursuit
of justice—all to the glory of God.*

A Minute in Ministry

Many Christians from the earliest centuries to the present have affirmed that true wisdom combines knowledge of God and knowledge of ourselves. It's more than just speculation of the mind. A full, rich life with meaning and purpose arises out of how we live faith in daily routines and respond to major concerns. Here's how Richard Rohr expresses it:

We do not think ourselves into new ways of living. We live ourselves into new ways of thinking. In other words, our journeys around and through our realities, or "circumferences," lead us to *the core reality*, where we meet both our truest self and our truest God. We do not really know what it means to be human unless we know God. And, in turn, we do not really know God except through our own broken and rejoicing humanity.

When we talk about what we "know," it all has much to do with how we feel, as well. We live out of reflection and inspiration, driven by emotions at least as much as mental calculations. We tend to make decisions based on our desires and fears more than just definitive "facts."

As we live faith together through the next couple of months, I'd like to highlight a few activities and events by way of example and invitation. First, as in previous years, we are coordinating opportunities to read and reflect on a book together through the season of Lent. We will use *Everything Belongs*, by Richard Rohr, quoted above. In this *Presbyter*, you will find times and places to participate with a group. Some will meet with existing groups. Whether you come often or this would be a new Lenten discipline, I encourage you to consider how you might grow in faithfulness—loving God by sharing the love of others.

During Lent, we will also host the McShane Colloquium. Our very special presenter this year is the Rev. David McShane himself! Dave has spent much of his life observing and reflecting on how liturgy in worship moves the human heart and inspires us to live. He will preach on Sunday, March 12, and offer an interactive lecture later that afternoon. And finally, he will lead further conversation on Monday, March 13. Look for more information and how to register for that Monday.

Two other groups meet through this season and beyond. A confirmation class of youth meets weekly after worship to discuss everything from the Bible, church history, and theology, to how we live faith in our contemporary world. Rob Bradford has included many other adults as teachers and mentors to build wider relationships. I look forward to their confirmation in May—when we glimpse how our youth have begun to integrate their "truest self" and our "truest God." And in a much less formalized way, a small group of congregants of all ages is actively exploring and experiencing alternative expressions of worship. The group gathers consistently on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m., gearing up and working through possibilities, while meeting in people's homes. If you'd like to participate, let me or someone from the Worship and Music Committee know. Otherwise watch for more information about a "launch" in months to come.

In this season of Lent, as we grow closer with God and one another, grace and peace to you,

Seth

The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer, Pastor

WORSHIP DURING APRIL AND HOLY WEEK

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship is at 10:30 a.m.
(unless noted otherwise)

April 2
Fifth Sunday of Lent
The Rev. Larry Farris

April 9
Palm Sunday
(10:00 a.m. "Blessing of the Palms")
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Matthew 21:1-11; Philippians 2:5-11

April 13—7:00 p.m.
Maundy Thursday
The Rev. Kathleen Robertson King

April 14—7:00 p.m.
Good Friday
The Rev. Larry Farris



April 16
Easter Sunday
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
John 20:1-18; Acts 10:34-43

April 23
Second Sunday of Easter
The Rev. Liz Candido

April 30
Third Sunday of Easter
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Acts 2:14, 36-42; Luke 24:13-35

WORSHIP DURING HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY—APRIL 9

Our observance of Holy Week will begin with other churches in Bronson Park at 10:00 a.m. with the "Blessing of the Palms". As Jesus paraded into Jerusalem amid the cultural and political powers of his day, so we will gather together with other churches to share the blessing of the palms, scripture reading, and a short litany for the day. Following this very brief time together, we will proceed into our respective sanctuaries for Worship.

MAUNDY THURSDAY—APRIL 13

On Maundy Thursday we remember Jesus' commandment to love, in the face of his impending arrest and crucifixion. Our worship, beginning at 7:00 p.m., will relate the narrative events of the first Maundy Thursday as told in the gospels of John and Matthew, in a Tenebrae rhythm of scripture readings, interpretive reflection, hymns, and dimming lights. This service will include the sacrament of holy communion, and participation by our Choir.

GOOD FRIDAY—APRIL 14

On Good Friday we will gather to worship in a quiet, more contemplative mode, remembering the ancient story of Jesus' crucifixion. The service will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

EASTER—APRIL 16

Our Holy Week worship will conclude with a celebration of the Resurrection of Christ during the regular service at 10:30 a.m. on Easter morning. Our worship will include communion, special musical brass accompaniment, and, of course, floral decoration of our sanctuary as a beautiful expression of the life abundant we share in God's love. We are grateful to the Chancel Guild for their loving preparation of our Sanctuary.



Holy Week & Easter

SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY

Allison Hammond was elected Clerk of Session and Rick Russell was elected Treasurer.

The following motions were made and adopted:

- to approve a revised Kalamazoo First Presbyterian Church logo as presented.
- to approve the congregational project of “Walking to Jerusalem”, to be held between Easter and Pentecost.
- to revise the Sexual Misconduct and Child Abuse Policy.
- to approve the following Health Ministry mission statement:
“The Health Ministry Committee recognizes that health involves the whole person – body, mind, and spirit, and promotes the well-being of individuals and families through all stages of life. It exists to foster a healthful life-style within our local and greater church community through the offering of health education programs, worship services for wholeness and healing, and support of the Health Ministry Coordinator and volunteers.”
- to approve Kalamazoo First Presbyterian Church to become a member of ISAAC and provide \$500 from the Ford/Neff Fund for our dues.
- to approve the use of \$8,160 from Capital Funds to fix a problematic roof drain.
- to approve a revised description of the McShane Colloquium:
“McShane Colloquium seeks to bring nationally known preachers to Kalamazoo to preach and reflect on the craft of preaching, engaging with culture.”

UPDATE ON 2017 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

The final results for the 2017 Stewardship Campaign, “The Gifts of God for the People of God” have been tabulated. They indicate that \$613,428 was pledged by 227 households. This amount compares favorably with the \$610,375 that was pledged for 2016. As of February 9, 96.6% of the 2016 pledges have been received, with an unexpected blessing: those who pledged actually gave a total of nearly \$20,000 in overpayment of their pledges!

Thanks to all who have given generously of their treasure – as well as of their time and talents - to make the stewardship efforts of our church successful, thus assuring that our programs and our mission will continue to support the Lord’s work here at First Presbyterian Church.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING and POTLUCK

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

The Annual Congregational Meeting and shared meal are scheduled for March 5, following Worship, in the Dining Room. Please join us for a celebration of our church life, as we share the successes and joys of the year. We will begin the festivities with a potluck meal. There will be a special surprise for the children!

Potluck dishes may be taken to the kitchen before Worship and will be tended and served by members of the Congregational Life Committee. Table service and beverages will be provided. If your last name begins with A-L, please bring a main dish, vegetable, or salad; M-Z, a fruit dish or dessert.

Childcare will be provided for infants and toddlers in the nursery and toddler rooms during the business meeting that follows the meal. If you will need childcare please sign up on the bulletin board located by Pat Stromsta’s office. If you have questions, please call Kelsey Oliver at (269) 903-1077.



CHURCH REPORTS

CONGREGATIONAL DEACONS

Class of 2017

Bob Candido
Kathy Cooney
Lisa and John Diamond
Nancy Klesert
Nancy Maleitzke
Sue Potts
Joseph Sablan
Colleen and Mike Sherrill

Class of 2018

Dorothy Castor
Karen Cooper
Dan Dowswell
Nancy and Keith Johnson
Karen Nellums
Carolyn Neubauer
Donna Schonveld

Class of 2019

Tim Aldrich
Cynthia Feucht
Anna Hamel
Karen Hassler
Judy Johnson
Wendy King
Louise McCallum
Jackie Stults

Please note:

If you have moved, or changed any contact information, please inform Ann Johnson in the church office, at ann.johnson@kalamazoofirstpres.org or call 344-0119, so she can keep your contact information up to date.

"THANK YOU"

The Deacons appreciate the response to the "noisy coins" endeavor. As you know, your change, dropped in the collection plate each Sunday, helps to assist and care for those in need. As the weeks tick by, please continue your generosity.

THE McSHANE COLLOQUIUM MARCH 12 and 13 (Sunday and Monday)

Presentations by the Reverend Dr. David W. McShane

On Sunday, **March 12**, beginning at 4:00 p.m., the Reverend Dr. David W. McShane will lead a discussion based on the title "Living the Narrative". The discussion will convene in the Gathering Place, and later move into the Sanctuary to explore how the Biblical people's relation to God has developed over the centuries. This Sunday program is free and open to the public.

Monday, March 13 (see RSVP information and cost below)
The Biological and Biblical Roots of Liturgical Theology

9:15—10:45

Session I

The Emergence of Liturgical Theology
The Biblical Roots of Liturgical Theology
How and Why We Believe
The Human Affect System

11:00—12:30

Session II

How and Why We Worship
The Purpose of Symbolic Actions
The Uniqueness of the Church

12:30—1:30 (Lunch)

1:30—3:00

Session III

Help the Church Join the 21st Century
Descartes' Error Explicated
An Experiment in Liturgical Theology

R.S.V.P. for Monday, March 13

If you plan to attend the Colloquium on Monday, March 13, please make a reservation by calling FPC at (269) 344-0119.

The registration fee is \$25.00, which includes the luncheon and handouts regarding the material to be presented. Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church (FPC) of Kalamazoo and write "McShane Colloquium" in the memo line. Deliver or mail your payment to First Presbyterian Church, 321 W. South Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

The McShane Preacher Colloquium was established in 1987 by FPC to honor the ministry of the Reverend Dr. David W. McShane. Dr. McShane was a pastor at FPC for 27 years, and during that time, he hosted an informal weekly colloquium for area ministers. More information is included in a brochure available at the church entrances.

First Presbyterian Church Easter Flowers - 2017



The Chancel Guild encourages you to memorialize or honor someone at Easter by purchasing an Easter flower. The flowers will be placed in the chancel in a display that will glorify God as it symbolizes the joy and splendor of the resurrection.

Fill out the form below and mail or deliver to the church office with a check made payable to First Presbyterian Church.

Deadline: Sunday, April 2

A list of the memorial flowers and donors will be printed in the Worship bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 16.

I/we want ____ plants (\$15 each). Check for \$_____ enclosed.

Plants are dedicated to the glory of God and given

☐ *in memory of* OR ☐ *in honor of*

☐ *in memory of* OR ☐ *in honor of*

☐ *in memory of* OR ☐ *in honor of*

☐ *in memory of* OR ☐ *in honor of*

Given by:

Name _____

Phone or e-mail _____

GREAT CHILI COOK-OFF

**Attention All Chili Chefs
and Chili Lovers!**

March 26

In the Dining Room after Worship

There's a competition coming to First Presbyterian Church, and everyone is invited! Come and join us! Taste various delicious kinds of chili, enjoy Mexican music and decorations, and then vote for the best chili and the best decorations. It's fun for all ages!

To enter your group's chili in the competition, please contact Bev Murray (Congregational Life Committee) at 665-9221 or bhmurray@charter.net. Also, members of the Congregational Life Committee will be reaching out in the next few weeks to recruit contestants!

All proceeds will go to One Great Hour of Sharing. Please come and support this special offering.

Watch the Sunday Announcements for more information, but for now, mark the date on your calendars!



SESSION—2017

Clerk of Session: Allison Hammond

Sam Beals (2018)

*Property Maintenance
Congregational Life

Sam Clark (2017)

Endowment, Outreach

Richard Coryell (2019)

Congregational Life
Worship and Music

Stuart Deming (2018)

Communications, Stewardship,
Health Ministry

Diane Durian (2019)

Personnel, Property Maintenance

Pat Farris (2017)

*Health Ministry, Worship and Music

Diane Heckler (2017)

Health Ministry, Congregational Life

Tim Henson (2019)

Christian Education, Outreach,
Worship and Music

Elaine Johns (2018)

*Worship and Music, Communications

Sue Johnson (2018)

*Christian Education

Barbara Liggett (2017)

*Personnel, *Nominating

Don Meldrum (2019)

*Finance

Brian Nederveld (2018)

*Congregational Life

Kelsey Oliver (2019)

*Congregational Life, Health Ministry,
and Christian Education

Janet Todd (2017)

Christian Education
Congregational Life

Laurie Tupper (2019)

*Outreach, Property Maintenance

Jim Van Buren (2017)

*Stewardship, *Communications,
Finance, and Outreach,

Rob Wall-Emerson (2019)

Finance, Property Maintenance

Phil Ward (2017)

Property Maintenance

Jonathan Willoughby (2018)

*Endowment, Finance, Stewardship

Pamela Zandt (2018)

Finance, Personnel

(parentheses indicate class year)

* Committee chair or co-chair



SPECIAL OFFERINGS ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

March 1—April 16

The four church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA) are a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church. One Great Hour of Sharing, the Pentecost Offering, Peace & Global Witness Offering, and Christmas Joy Offering play an important role in defining what it means to be a "connectional church". Over the years, these offerings have provided ways for individuals and congregations to join together with one another and in partnership with other Christians in responding to a variety of concerns.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is the special offering that is collected during Lent. Through this longstanding, ecumenical effort, Presbyterians share God's love by giving to ministries that provide *relief* to those affected by natural disasters, *food* for the hungry, and *support* towards the self-development of poor and oppressed communities.

One Great Hour of Sharing funds are divided among its three programs:

- 32% - Restoring Hope (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance):
Working alongside communities as they recover and find hope after natural or human-caused disasters.
- 36% - Reducing Hunger (Presbyterian Hunger Program):
Supporting initiatives that create sustainable food systems and alleviate root causes of poverty so that all may be fed.
- 32% - Partnering in Progress (Self-Development of People):
Providing resources and education to oppressed and disadvantaged communities, working to overcome poverty and injustice through initiatives they own and from which they benefit directly.

You will have an opportunity to share in these ministries through your giving to **One Great Hour of Sharing** during Lent and at our **Annual Chili Cook-Off** on March 26.



ACTIVITIES

ALL-CHURCH READ FOR LENT

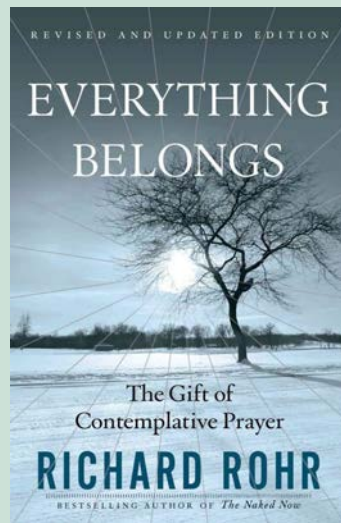
Members of the congregation are invited to be part of an All-Church Read for Lent, beginning on Monday, March 6. Together we will read the book *Everything Belongs: The Gift of Contemplative Prayer* by Richard Rohr, O.F.M.

In *Everything Belongs*, Richard Rohr offers a personal retreat for those who hunger for a deeper spiritual life but don't know what contemplation is. Father Rohr helps us understand that intimacy with God cannot be achieved in the rational mind. By practicing contemplation, we learn not to reason better, but to see everything – including ourselves and other people – differently. As our perspective becomes wider, we discover that everything belongs.

You will have the opportunity to join existing groups or form a group of your own. Discussion on “*Everything Belongs*” will be offered at the following times:

- ◇ **Sunday Mornings: after Worship**
(March 12, 19; April 2, 9)
Facilitated by Seth Weeldreyer and Associate Pastors
- ◇ **Monday Evenings (March 6—April 10)**
Facilitated by Larry Boutelle (off site)
- ◇ **Tuesdays at noon (March 7—April 11)**
Facilitated by Seth Weeldreyer
- ◇ **Thursdays at 9:30 (March 9—April 13)**
During Women's Bible Study; facilitated by Pat Stromsta

Books will be available for a requested donation of \$10.00 at the FPC office reception desk, from the facilitators, or online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). (ISBN :978-0-8245-1995-7)



TIPS FROM GREEN PETE



MARCH 19 (Sunday, following worship)

Do you know that you can SELL young (less than three years old), unwanted electronics at certain websites? You can DONATE middle-aged electronics to charities, and you can RECYCLE ancient ones. On Sunday, March 19, there will be a forum where you can learn how to dispose of these unwanted electronics. This will take place in Room 314-315.

At this forum there will be a representative from Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), a county agency open to most county residents. There will also be a representative from Emerald e-Cycling, a local, private company that has been in the recycling business for over thirty years.

Here are some questions we hope the representatives will answer:

- ⇒ What are the economics of recycling?
- ⇒ What do they accept?
- ⇒ What components are recycled, and where do they eventually end up?

Our hope is that we can keep electronics from ending up in the landfills. 70% of electronic waste in the landfills contains heavy metals which can harm wildlife and can also make their way into our water supply.

CHURCH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

March 5

First Week of Lent
Communion served
in the Sanctuary

March 12

Church School
Christian Ed. Committee Meeting

March 19

Church School

March 26

Church School
Church School Teachers' Meeting

April 2

Spring Break
No Church School

April 9

Palm Sunday
Church School

April 16

Easter
No Church School

April 23

Church School
Church School Teachers' Meeting

April 30

Church School



For Church School information,
contact Pat Stromsta at
pat.stromsta@kalamazoofirstpres.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

CONFIRMATION CLASS

We currently have 7 students participating in Confirmation and we have already met five times. The students are taking classes with Rob and we also have guest teachers/instructors: Pastor Seth, Pastor Kathleen, and Wendy King. The students also all have a mentor they meet with and talk to about their faith journey. Here is a schedule of what we have done and what we will do throughout the class:

January 22 - What is Confirmation and why Presbyterian? (Rob)
Also, meet your Mentors/Why is a mentor important?

January 29 - The History of the Church (Rob)

February 5 - World Religions - What are they? (Rob)

February 12 - Important Creeds, doctrines, heresies (Pastor Seth)

February 19 - What is the Bible? (Wendy King and Rob)

February 26 - Who is Jesus? The Biblical & the Historical Jesus
(Pastor Kathleen)

March 5 - What does it mean to live like a Christian? (Rob)

March 12 - Confirmation Review and Faith Statement Workshop
(Rob)

THE NEW WILMINGTON MISSION CONFERENCE

This is an amazing conference for all ages, and all ages are welcome. I am especially recruiting middle school and high school students to attend the conference.

WHEN? - July 22-29, 2017

WHERE? - New Wilmington, PA, the campus of Westminster College

WHAT?

NWMC combines the fun and outdoors of summer camp, the education and networking of a conference, and the opportunity to get involved in hands-on service, into one great week that will surely make a difference in your ministry. Youth are exposed to mission opportunities near and far. There is an emphasis on how to be involved in mission right now, as well as a challenge to students to think about where God may use them in the future. Programming blends both learning about mission through simulations, speakers, and interaction with mission workers from around the world, and engaging in mission with service-project opportunities.

COST?

If this is your first time attending and if you participate in church-sponsored fund raising; you can attend the whole trip for only \$50.

If this is a return trip for you and you participate in church-sponsored fund raising, you may attend the conference for \$150. Please sign up through the church so we can get the group rate! A deposit of \$50 is due by April 1. Thanks!

YOUTH MINISTRY

Contact Rob Bradford if you have any questions about the FPC Youth Ministry.
(269) 806-5196 or bradfordrr@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE FOR MARCH AND APRIL

March 12	Richland FPC hosts (movie)
March 19	Richland FPC hosts (movie, part 2)
March 26	Kalamazoo FPC hosts
April 2	No meeting (Spring Break)
April 9	No meeting (Spring Break)
April 16	No meeting (Easter Sunday)

STAY HOME MISSION TRIP

Middle School students (going into 6th grade through going into 9th grade) will have a new opportunity this summer: to participate in a "Stay Home Mission Trip" (SHMT).

This SHMT will be offered Monday through Thursday, June 19-22, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. On Wednesday, the students will stay at church until 7:00 p.m. to help prepare and serve the meal at Celebrate the Vision.

Students will have an opportunity to learn the reality of poverty in Kalamazoo, Michigan. We will volunteer at Ministry with Community, Kalamazoo Deacons Conference, Loaves & Fishes, and other local organizations.

The students will meet for breakfast at 9:00. Each day we will spend time discussing our call and privilege as Christians to serve the marginalized in our own community. Speakers from different organizations will introduce the students to their organizations and the work that they do in the community. We will also learn how individuals and churches can become involved in the ongoing work of these organizations.

Attendance at this SHMT is by preregistration only. The fee is \$50.00 per student; scholarships are available through the Christian Education Committee, with registration and payment due May 1. This Stay Home Mission Trip will be available to the first 12 students who sign up. If there are fewer than six students registered, this program will be cancelled.

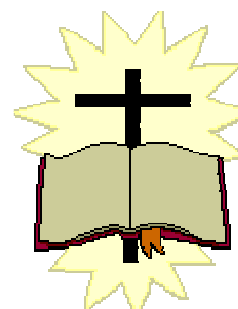
If you have questions, please contact Dr. Patricia Stromsta, Director of Christian Education, who will plan and facilitate this trip.



PRAYER PARTNERS

This group meets monthly to pray for our own church, the Church universal, and one another. We base our prayers and discussion on a variety of books and resources. This year we are reading the book, *Prayer 101*, by Warren Wiersbe.

For more information about this group, please see the list of Prayer Partners posted outside Pat Stromsta's office (Room 206). You are invited to ask any of these members about their experience with the group, and any other questions that you may have.



LECTIONARY STUDY Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

You are invited to join other church members in the weekly lectionary study that precedes Worship. During this time, we observe and discuss basic facts about the Scripture that will be used in the day's worship service. Together we attempt to interpret the meaning of the passages and to discover implications of the text for growing in Christ.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

ALL-CHURCH BREAKFAST

March 19 (Sunday), 8:45 a.m.

April 16 (Sunday), 8:45 a.m.

The Men's Fellowship group will offer their monthly breakfast on Sunday, March 19 (also on April 16) starting at 8:45. These breakfasts are an excellent occasion for members of the congregation to gather for a delicious breakfast served by the best breakfast chefs in town! We suggest a \$5.00 per-family donation. Proceeds will support Celebrate the Vision.

MONTHLY WEDNESDAY

NIGHT MEN'S GROUP

March 8 (Wednesday), 5:30 p.m.

April 12 (Wednesday), 5:30 p.m.

A group for men of all ages meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the home of Jeff Ross, 4824 South First Street. It is a great time of fellowship and conversation about faith as we grow together in God's Spirit, seeking the fullness of peace, joy, and love. All men are welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Ross or Seth Weeldreyer.

THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Friends at

First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for the many cards, notes, and calls of comfort at the time of mother's death in December. I was overwhelmed. Even though we are no longer physically a part of you, you will always be a part of us spiritually.

Blessings to each of you,

Sandra and Gary Wegenke

OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH

Friday, March 3, 1:00 p.m.

Friday, April 7, 1:00 p.m.

The "Out-to-Lunch Bunch" is an informal group from our church that gathers together to have lunch and conversation on the first Friday of each month. All FPC members are welcome to join. We order from the menu. The Committee asks that a reservation be made by the day before the date of a luncheon.

March 3 (RSVP by noon on March 2)

Lunch will be at Hunan Gardens, 5059 W. Main (at Drake Road), Kalamazoo.

April 7 (RSVP by noon on April 6)

Lunch will be at Food Dance, 401 E. Michigan, Kalamazoo.

HEARTS-TO-HANDS STITCHERS

March (no meeting)

April 3 (Monday), 1:00 p.m.

Hearts-to-Hands Stitchers is a group of people who like to sew. They make items for the congregation and the community. The Stitchers will not meet in March. The next meeting will be Monday, April 3, at 1:00 in the Sewing Room.

MARTHA CIRCLE

March 8 (Wednesday), 3:00 p.m.

April 12 (Wednesday), 3:00 p.m.

Martha Circle will meet on Wednesday, March 8, at 3:00 in the Church Lounge. Jeanene Lewis will provide refreshments. Carol Payne Smith will lead a discussion of Chapter 5 of the Bible Study. Plans will be made to visit members who are unable to attend worship services.

In early April, members of Martha Circle will go out in pairs to visit women of the congregation who are no longer able to attend worship services. On Wednesday, April 12, at 3:00 they will meet in the Church Lounge to report on the visits.



FPC HANDBELL CHOIR

The FPC Handbell Choir is underway! If you would like to explore playing handbells, whether you are a beginner or experienced ringer, middle school age through adult, please contact Cindy Hunter at cindy.hunter@kalamazoofirstpres.org or (269) 377-2478.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

THOUGHTFUL READERS BOOK GROUP

March 27 (Monday), 7:00 p.m.

April 24 (Monday), 7:00 p.m.

"Everything I Never Told You", by Celeste Ng, will be discussed by the Thoughtful Readers Book Group on March 27 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 300. When teenager Lydia Lee is found dead in a local lake, her Chinese American family, living in 1970's small-town Ohio, tumbles into chaos. A profoundly moving story, "Everything I Never Told You" is both a gripping page-turner, and a sensitive family portrait, exploring the divisions between cultures and the rifts within a family.

On Monday, April 24 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 300, we will discuss "Inside the O'Briens" by Lisa Genova. In this novel, Genova does for Huntington's disease what her novel "Still Alice" did for Alzheimer's. Joe O'Brien is a 44-year-old Boston cop who is diagnosed with Huntington's disease, which is hereditary and incurable. He might have passed the gene on to his four children, who must now decide whether to get tested, themselves. Genova effectively dramatizes the challenge of a devastating disease that affects several generations simultaneously and demands searing emotional, logistical, and financial choices. [Publishers Weekly Review]

New members are always welcome. For more information, contact Kathy Campbell at (517) 803-0481.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AT FPC

WEST MICHIGAN OPERA PROJECT: March 3

Come hear the West Michigan Opera Project on Friday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m. featuring a performance of *The Marriage of Figaro*. The performance will take place in our Sanctuary. The West Michigan Opera Project features local professional singers, together with the Advanced Women's Chorus of Jenison High School, accompanied by pianist Dr. Kenneth Bos, cellist Stacey Bosman Tanner, and clarinetist David Yandl. This comic opera, with its twisted plots and outrageous outcomes, is sure to please the novice as well as the seasoned opera-goer. It is a fully staged opera, sung in Italian, with English surtitles. All are welcome and admission is free. For more information visit www.westmichiganoperaproject.com.

KSO ENSEMBLE: March 14

On Tuesday, March 14, at 7:00 p.m. we will again welcome a Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra ensemble to our Sanctuary. The KSO Woodwind Trio will present a program of works by Beethoven and Malcolm Arnold for your listening pleasure. The evening includes the opportunity to meet and talk with the performers at a reception following the free concert. The final concert in the series will feature the KSO Brass Quintet on May 9, so mark your calendars for both events.



COMMUNITY GROUPS THAT MEET AT FPC

AA

Mondays and Thursdays at noon.
Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

Boy Scouts

Mondays at 6:00 p.m.

Coalition for Common Ground
Days and dates t.b.d.

Crescendo Academy of Music
Occasional Sunday afternoons

Food Addicts
Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m.

Kalamazoo Pipe Band
Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Kalamazoo Singers
Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

KNOW
First Mondays
at 5:00 p.m.

HEALTH MINISTRY



WALK TO JERUSALEM

The Health Ministry Committee wants you! We want everyone to get moving this spring, and in order to help motivate the congregation, we will be taking a virtual "WALK TO JERUSALEM!"

No, we aren't actually hiking there, but we will be encouraging everyone to keep track of their individual activities (walking, swimming, running, yoga, chair exercise - almost any activity counts) from Easter to Pentecost.

Every Sunday each of us will post, on a world map in the Gathering Place, the number of miles we have traveled in the previous week." We hope you will join us in our goal of collecting the 3,994 miles from Kalamazoo to Jerusalem this spring!

Watch for more information and a registration form soon!



MY LIFE AT CHURCH

My Life at Church: A first-person account of living with hearing loss

By Tom Reigel

"_____, do you like mice?" "No I don't, rice is okay if it's cooked well. And it would be nice out if we don't have an ice storm."

Just a few notes on being deaf...or "deef"...or hard of hearing.

Hearing loss is the most common disability in our society. Hearing loss is more common than being blind or crippled or any other disability. There can be a number of causes: congenital (being born deaf), infections, trauma, and old age. I lost the hearing in my right ear from scarlet fever as a four-year-old. My left ear failed because of age.

Being hard of hearing is both a blessing and a problem. It's nice at about 8 p.m. to take out my aids and have the quiet!! But when I want to join the real world, the hearing loss is difficult, and can feel very isolating. The hearing aids help quite a lot. I have two hearing aids: a standard hearing aid in my left ear and a cochlear implant in my right ear. The cochlear implant is used in middle ear deafness, primarily in children. It bypasses the middle ear and goes directly to the 8th nerve. It requires brain surgery, and it is practically problem-free.

With both hearing aids in place, I hear well enough in normal conversation, but in a noisy group with several people talking at once, or in a noisy environment such as a restaurant, all is lost. My devices just amplify it all....NOISE!

Your voice sounds different to me depending on which ear is closer to you and whether or not I am using my hearing aids. In my left ear, I have about 20% hearing without my aid, but your voice sounds normal, just very quiet. With a hearing aid in my left ear, I hear pretty well from that ear if someone is talking directly to me on that side. My right ear is completely deaf without the cochlear implant, and your voice has a different quality to it, but I hear pretty well with the implant. I hear best with both hearing aids, in a quiet environment, with people speaking directly to me. In church I also wear earphones, which amplify the minister and anyone using the microphones. This eliminates extraneous noises. I also have a small microphone which works well in meetings.

All in all, using the hearing aids is better than being "deef", but it's not normal. So if you see me in the coffee room after church, don't expect a conversation, but a smile and a handshake are welcome!

Outreach and Community Service

ENDOWMENT FUND: SUPPORTING OUTREACH AND MISSION WORK AT FPC

Most are aware that our First Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund is a vital initiative in the life of our church. Yet some of us may be unfamiliar with the particulars of its impact on the operations of FPC and more specifically on our outreach and mission work in the local, regional, and global communities.

Remarkably, the general unrestricted Endowment Fund annually contributes well over \$100,000 to help meet the total budgeted operating expenses of our church. And among the many church operating expenses in 2016 was over \$77,500 dedicated to outreach and mission projects of the Outreach Committee of Session on behalf of First Presbyterian Church.

Also, there are restricted purpose moneys within, and directly managed by, the Endowment Fund, that in 2017 will make available to Session and the Outreach Committee almost \$27,000 in direct assistance for outreach and mission endeavors on behalf of FPC.

That's a total of nearly \$100,000 in 2017, between endowment and general operating funds, committed to the outreach and mission activities of First Presbyterian Church. We all would agree that that is no small "treasure." And, when combined with the "talents" of our church, through our volunteers and staff, we can and do make a considerable Christian witness in our community and around the world.

Accordingly, as you can see, the FPC Endowment Fund is "alive and well" and it has great significance in the life of our church and the surrounding community.

Please consider leaving or establishing a legacy that will live on and continue to give in perpetuity. If you are considering such a contribution, you are encouraged to learn more by contacting the FPC office or an Endowment Fund committee member. Jonathan Willoughby is the current moderator/chair of the Endowment Committee.



OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Moderator: Laurie Tupper

The mission of the Outreach Committee is to:

- promote faithful service both to our local community and to the wider world;
- represent a Christian presence in the community;
- reflect Christ's light through a dynamic ministry of compassion, social justice, and service; and
- kindle the vision of FPC as a light to our community and to the world.

Celebrate the Vision

Contact: Pat Stromsta

Edison School Project

Contacts: Joyce Petro
Carol Payne Smith
Sue Johnson
Joseph Sablan

Ghana Partnership

Contact: John Petro

Building Blocks of Kalamazoo

Contact: Kim Cummings

Kalamazoo Habitat for Humanity

Contact: Mike Boersma

Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes

Contact: Sam Clark

Ministry with Community: Food Pantry

Contact: Sam Clark

Nicaraguan Partnership

Contact: Larry Boutelle

Rickman House BINGO

Contact: Mike Boersma

United Campus Ministry at WMU

Contact: Miranda Howard

Outreach and Community Service

REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

The Syrian family co-sponsored by this congregation moved into a house in Kalamazoo in early February. Additional assistance from members of First United Methodist Church, Westminster Presbyterian Church, and St. Ambrose Catholic Church has brought new partners and friends together in a group endeavor.

A large part of the funding allocated from Outreach funds and from a grant was combined with the family's resettlement funds for their rent deposit. Families can overcome the lack of credit history or guarantor only by making a substantial advance rent payment.

After a rocky start, all four children are in school - two in elementary school and two in high school. St. Ambrose Church invited the family to their St. Valentine's Dance Party, and the family continues to receive English and other tutoring from a large team of volunteers. Medical and dental visits are being coordinated by many volunteer helpers.

It is likely that the father, Abdul Alim, will begin working at a sewing factory this month, and the adult daughter, Ghena, may begin working in a daycare center.

As the refugee resettlement agency is officially responsible for the family only until March 3, we anticipate that our friendship with the family, and our prayers, will be crucial in the coming months.

FPC IS NOW A MEMBER OF ISAAC

Upon the recommendation of the Outreach Committee, Session approved our church's application to become a member of ISAAC (Interfaith Strategy for Advocacy & Action in the Community). ISAAC is the largest faith-based organizing group in Southwest Michigan, with over 20 member congregations and organizations! It is also the most racially and religiously diverse organizing group in Kalamazoo.

As a congregation, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of a just community. We are seeking to build a world where hope triumphs over fear, where God's abundance meets the needs of all, and where we live in sacred and beloved community. Issues that are currently being addressed by ISAAC are:

- ◇ Education & Early Childhood Task Force. With an eye towards investing in our future, we are working to increase preschool education slots and to end cuts to K-12 education in Michigan!
- ◇ Youth Violence & Drug Prevention Task Force. Implementing David M. Kennedy's widely successful approach to ending inner city violence.
- ◇ Transportation Task Force. Expanding public transit so it is seamless, accessible, and affordable to all who reside in the county.
- ◇ Affordable Housing Task Force. Convincing our community to stop just sheltering people and provide housing instead—which actually costs half as much!

For more information on ISAAC, please go to their website at Isaackalamazoo.org.

More information about future opportunities to get involved in the work of ISAAC will be in our weekly Announcements.



Outreach and Community Service

ANNUAL PEACE SERVICE

Our Church will host the 15th Annual Peace Service at 5:00 p.m., Sunday, March 19. The keynote speaker is May (Ariela) Ye, a senior piano performance major at Western Michigan University, who will present a talk entitled, *A Jewish Voice for Peace and Justice*. She aspires to be a Jewish leader who will unite Jews of all backgrounds in a divided world and will work for justice and equality, while keeping Torah and Jewish values as the burning flames of Ner Tamid. She is in the process of applying for the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia. Her goal is to be a rabbi who can relate especially to those Jews who feel marginalized within Jewish communities—Jews of different hues, including those who have chosen Judaism as their faith, those who are Patrilineal Jews, and those whose political beliefs may fall outside the norm. She feels compelled to serve the Jewish community as a leader, an intermediary, and as an organizer for progressive Jewish life and social justice activism.

There is no admission charge. Please enter the building from the parking lot on Lovell Street. Free childcare will be provided. Refreshments and conversation with May Ye will follow the hour-long peace service in the Gathering Place. Voluntary contributions will be received for *Jewish Voices for Peace*. Contributions made with a check payable to *Jewish Voices for Peace* are tax-deductible. Free information on issues supporting peace and justice in the Middle East and elsewhere will be available on a literature table.

This Peace Service is sponsored by the Kalamazoo Interfaith Coalition for Peace and Justice (KICPJ), which welcomes people from all faith and spiritual traditions that wish to engage in local, national, and international issues involving peace and justice. The first Peace Service sponsored by KICPJ was held in 2003 at Kalamazoo College, in protest to the imminent war with Afghanistan. In addition to the annual peace services, KICPJ holds an annual forum each fall to discuss various emerging concerns related to peace and justice. This past fall, the focus was on welcoming Syrian refugees to the Kalamazoo area. For more information about KICPJ, please contact Paul Clements at paul.clements@wmich.edu, or John Petro at john@petroclan.com, who both serve on the KICPJ board.



EDISON
MAGNET SCHOOL GRADES K - 5
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE ACADEMY

For information about our outreach at Edison School:

Joyce Petro
342-6817
joyce@petroclan.com

Carol Payne Smith
388-2278
paynesmith83@gmail.com

Sue Johnson
276-9218
suebird.johnson@gmail.com

Joseph Sablan
(773) 569-6243
richieandjoey@sbcglobal.net

LOST SCOUTS

Scout Troop 205 will celebrate its 100 years of being sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo with a banquet in our FPC dining room on Saturday, August 19.

We are working on updating our records of past members of the Troop. If any church members could supply either email or regular current addresses, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact past Scoutmaster Dave Dunfield with any names you might have in your address book. He can be reached by email at ddunfie@gmail.com or phone (269) 324-1579. Another address is troop205anniversary@gmail.com.

March Birthdays

1
Mike Millar

2
Kennedy Elliott
Jake Longman
Brett Schmiede
Bridgit Smith
Julia Watt
Catherine Willoughby

3
Judy Anderson
Ellen Dykhuis
Cory Fritz
Evelyn Garner

4 (none)

5
Cynthia Gleaton
William Hajek

6
Sandra Edwards-Garcia
Jonathan Herson

7
Kara Cheney
Bennett Loughrin

8
Clara Lynn Hay
Chuck Schmiede
Joshua Scott

9
Kristen Allen
Leslie Roberts
Sarah Walker

10
Emily Hamel
Marshall Klein
Charlie Warren

11
Scott Erdos
Jerre James
Phil Kechele
Wendy King

12
Todd Richman
Leigh Schultz

13
Rory Busby
Davis Crocker
Robert Murray
Barb Ross

14
Christopher Chambers
Greg Russell
Logan Upson

15
Bruce Lubbers
Nancy Owen

16
Richard Aldrich
Rob Bradford
Adrianne Bumpus
William Park

17
Julie Bol
Kenneth Dark
Sheila Park
Shayne Plemmons
Sue Weeldreyer

18
Brian Chambers
Don Goodling
Julie Kechele
Dean McWethy

19
Jacque Carter
Jana Marie Schnur
Robert Scholten
Benjamin Taylor

20
C.J. Carrel
Benjamin Lewis
Jean Miller

21
Brad Allen
Gary Dorrien
Dick Hodgman
Helen Lander
Amy Schreiner
Carol Payne Smith

22
Paulette Rayel

23
Sharon Bradford
Matthew Novak
Nolan Pessetti
Bob White

24
Craig Kortlandt
Jacqueline Metzler
Shari Schut
Jane Veech

25
Daniel Busby
Alexis Diamond
Bob Klesert
Nan Munn

26
John Houdek
Samantha Shaffer

27
Dick DeVries
Diane Durian
Patrick Gleaton
Marty Meinzing

28
Laura Tribby

29
Taye Bradford
Sarah Chase

30
William Appel
Lou Grant
Chase Perricone
Marjorie Wardwell

31
Grant Coon
Patricia Farris
Peter Jorth



FPC 50th ANNIVERSARIES

MARCH

<u>Name of Member</u>	<u>Date Joined</u>	<u># Years</u>
Winship Todd	3/24/1929	87
Morden Paul Schuur	3/29/1931	85
Dorothy Milham Gauntlett	3/21/1937	79
Mary Lou Stephenson Todd	3/21/1937	79
Caroline Richardson Ham	3/21/1940	76
Gloria Ross Landman	3/29/1945	71
Dayton Maynard	3/22/1951	65
Juanita Erdos	3/26/1959	57
Jeanene Lewis	3/30/1961	55
Annabelle Rigg	3/30/1961	55
Bruce Rigg	3/30/1961	55
Barbara Johnson	3/26/1964	52
William Johnson	3/26/1964	52

April Birthdays



1	Mervin Burtis Bryan Ross Lucas Smith	16 (none)
2	Connor Cloetingh Jeremy Diamond Martha Flynn Ann Ihling Sue Madden Robert Munn Mark Schreiner	17 Cari Anderson Dave Drok Ruth Lubbers Corey Waterman
3	Julie Howard Matt Molitor	18 Elizabeth Bell Nancy Johnson Amy Miedema
4	Sam Cupps Alexandra Desotelle Paige Smith Peg Strong	19 Julie Shaw
5 (none)		20 Dorothy Gauntlett Jonathan Willoughby Jim Young
6 (none)		21 Sarah Graziano Emily Haite Addison Misner Cameryn Murray Donald Roberts
7	Cynthia Feucht Marilyn Jauch Michelle Molitor	22 Jeanne Case
8	Judy Johnson Mary Ann Ven De Ville	23 Keith Johnson Brian Kastman Philip Ward
9	Lisa Padgett Gene Miller	24 Kate Bates Robert Candido Greg Chambers Robert Jauch
10	Jim Weeldreyer	25 Diane Misner Kathy Smyser Marjorie St. Mary
11	Kaiya Bates Rollin Richman	26 Carolyn Houdek
12	Steve Cavanagh David Lewis Suzanne Macomber	27 Grace Jasinski Megan Mahoney Michelle Roberts Pamela Zandt
13	John Bradford Ben Palmer	28 Jane Todd
14	Ann Rohrbaugh	29 Kay Howson
15	Betty Bennett Salim Harik Jane Kraska Karen Lewis	30 Heidi Goodwin Jack Mellis

FPC 50th ANNIVERSARIES

APRIL

<u>Name of Member</u>	<u>Date Joined</u>	<u># Years</u>
Joan Gerpheide Colgren	4/14/38	77
Ruth Koffel Morris	4/17/38	77
Mary Ann Martz Ven De Ville	4/2/42	73
Jacqueline Reid Metzler	4/2/42	73
Mary Little Tyler	4/22/43	72
Jerre James	4/3/47	68
Kay Bilderback Burtis	4/14/49	66
Dorothy Callander	4/10/52	63
Dorothy Larkin	4/10/52	63
Julie Shaw	4/10/52	63
Joel Shepherd II	4/10/52	63
Priscilla Todd Blair	4/2/53	62
Amy Anderson	4/15/54	61
Carole Todd Shepherd Birch	4/15/54	61
Andrew R. Lenderink III	4/15/54	61
Timothy Shank	4/15/54	61
Helen Creager	4/7/55	60
Timothy J. Lenderink	4/7/55	60
Sue Grossman	4/18/57	58
JoAnn Yochim	4/18/57	58
Marilyn Lindbeck	4/3/58	57
Jerry Meinzing	4/3/58	57
Martha Meinzing	4/3/58	57
Nancy Raklovits	4/3/58	57
George Brooks	4/14/60	55
Richard Russell	4/14/60	55
Charlene Hansen	4/19/62	53
Gregory Russell	4/19/62	53
Jane Veech	4/19/62	53
Jennalie Shepherd	4/11/63	52
Gayle Stephenson	4/11/63	52
Rosalyn Hogan	4/15/65	51
Jane Iannelli	4/15/65	51
Vincent Iannelli	4/15/65	51
Margaret Pifer	4/15/65	51
Mervin Burtis	4/7/66	50
Diane White	4/7/66	50

PASTORAL CARE AND HOSPITAL VISITATION

An important part of our ministry at First Presbyterian Church is to provide pastoral care, including hospital visits. When a church member is admitted, hospitals are no longer permitted to notify the home church. We depend on members to call the church when a family member is hospitalized or needs a pastoral call.

Pastoral care is provided by the pastors, retired ministers from the congregation, and also by the Health Ministry Coordinator. Every attempt is made to visit hospital patients on a regular basis, including weekends.

Those doing hospital calling would appreciate knowing when any member needs a visit or special attention. Please call the church office, 344-0119.

If your call is an emergency and you are unable to reach a person at this number, please call one of these staff members:

Seth Weeldreyer
(269) 283-4048

Ann Ross
(269) 217-6193



In Memoriam

Mary Brylowski was born on March 27, 1937, and joined FPC on September 28, 1961. Mary died on January 6, 2017.

John Houts was born on July 2, 1939, and joined FPC on June 25, 1986. John died on January 10, 2017.

George Gerpheide was born on September 23, 1923, and joined FPC on September 29, 1955. George died on January 29, 2017.



Assistance for Worshippers

Hearing Assistance Devices for worship services can be requested from any usher, or you may call the church office in advance.

Copies of **Large-Print Bulletins** and Announcements are available every Sunday morning. Ask one of the ushers for a copy.

If you would like to receive **weekly e-mail updates about events** in the life of FPC, please contact Ann Johnson at 344-0119 and ask that your e-mail address be added to the list.

CD Ministry provides recordings of the Sunday morning services. Please stop in the office or call 344-0119 to place an order.

Gluten-free Communion Wafers are available at all communion services at First Presbyterian Church.

Associates

Parish Associates:

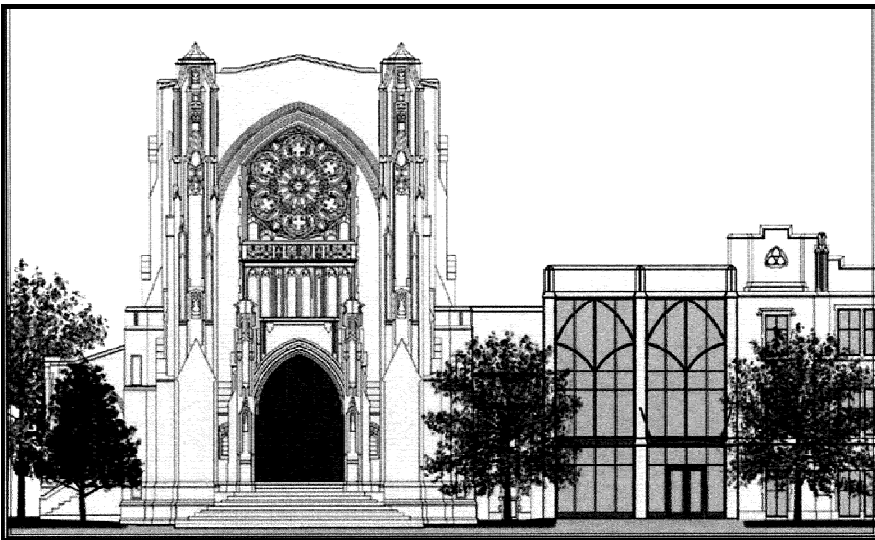
The Reverend Dr. Larry Boutelle, boutelle2@gmail.com
 The Reverend Liz Candido, ecandido@kzoo.edu
 The Reverend Larry Farris, farrislw@gmail.com

United Campus Ministry Pastor

and FPC Parish Associate:

The Reverend Kathleen Robertson King, ucmrking@yahoo.com

Pastor Emeritus: The Reverend Dr. David W. McShane



FPC STAFF

(269) 344-0119

(telephone extensions are listed below)

Pastor

The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
seth.weeldreyer@kalamazoofirstpres.org
 Ext. 202

Christian Education Director

Dr. Patricia Stromsta
pat.stromsta@kalamazoofirstpres.org
 Ext. 204

Youth Director

Rob Bradford (269) 806-5196
bradfordrr@gmail.com

Director of Music

Cindy Hunter (269) 377-2478
cindy.hunter@kalamazoofirstpres.org

Organist

Elizabeth Bruce
elizabeth.bruce@kalamazoofirstpres.org

Health Ministry Coordinator

Ann Ross
ann.ross@kalamazoofirstpres.org
 Ext. 211

Office Administrator

Ann Johnson
ann.johnson@kalamazoofirstpres.org
 Ext. 205

Administrative Assistant

Norma Clack
norma.clack@kalamazoofirstpres.org
 Ext. 209

Financial Coordinator

Louise Taylor
louise.taylor@kalamazoofirstpres.org
 Ext. 206

Building Superintendent

Mike Noteboom
mike.noteboom@kalamazoofirstpres.org
 Ext. 213

Custodians (Ext. 213):

Shawn Smith
shawn.smith@kalamazoofirstpres.org
Randy Randt

South Lobby Receptionist (Ext. 221)

Nate Owens
Nik DeHaan

Presbyter

Here is the schedule for the balance of the 2016-2017 program year:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline for Content</u>	<u>Mailing Date</u>
May-June	April 17	April 26
July-August	June 19	June 28

The *Presbyter* is also available for viewing on the FPC website:
sanctuaryinthecity.org.

FPC Presbyter / Calendar - March, 2017

PLEASE NOTE:

A schedule of community groups that meet at FPC is on page 11 of this issue of the Presbyter.

Wednesday/1—ASH WEDNESDAY

- 9:00a Hearts-to-Hands Card Ministry
- 1:00p FPC Librarian on site
- 4:30p DCLC
- 5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
- 6:15p Celebrate the Vision: worship
- 7:00p Ash Wednesday Worship at First Congregational Church

Thursday/2

- 9:30a Women's Bible Study
- 11:00a FPC Librarian on site
- 11:00a DCLC
- 5:00p FPC Handbell Choir rehearsal
- 7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/3

- 1:00p Lunch Bunch (*off site*)
- 7:30p Opera ("The Marriage of Figaro")

Saturday/4

Sunday/5

- 9:00a Prayer Partners
- 9:00a Lectionary Study
- 9:15a Reading Aloud
- 9:30a FPC Choir rehearsal
- 10:00a Childcare
- 10:30a Worship in the Sanctuary
Communion served
- 10:45a Church School
- 11:45a Confirmation class (#7 of 8)
- 12:00p Annual Meeting and Potluck
- 12:45p Ministry with Community
(*FPC serves the meal today*)
- 5:00p [no Youth Group today]

Monday/6

- 1:00p [no Hearts-to-Hands Stitchers]
- 6:30p Deacons meeting
- 7:00p Green P's meeting

Tuesday/7

- 7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
- 10:00a FPC Archivists
- 10:00p Bulletin deadline
- 12:00p All-Church Read
- 1:15p Weekly Staff Meeting

Wednesday/8

- 1:00p FPC Librarian on site
- 3:00p Martha Circle
- 4:30p DCLC
- 5:30p Men's Monthly Wednesday Evening Group (*off site*)
- 5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
- 6:15p Celebrate the Vision: worship
- 7:00p Outreach Committee

Thursday/9

- 9:30a Women's Bible Study
- 11:00a FPC Librarian on site
- 11:00a DCLC
- 7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/10 and Saturday/11

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Sunday/12

Daylight Saving Time begins

- 9:00a Congregational Life Committee
- 9:00a Christian Education Committee
- 9:00a Lectionary Study
- 9:15a Reading Aloud
- 9:30a FPC Choir rehearsal
- 10:00a Childcare
- 10:30a Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:45a Church School
- 11:45a Confirmation class (final of 8)
- 12:00p All-Church Read
- 4:00p "Living the Narrative"
(Rev. David McShane)
- 5:00p Youth Group (Richland FPC)

Monday/13

- 9:15a McShane Colloquium
(through 3:00 p.m.)

Tuesday/14

- 7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
- 10:00a FPC Archivists
- 10:00p Bulletin deadline
- 12:00p All-Church Read
- 1:15p Weekly Staff Meeting
- 7:00p KSO Woodwind Trio performs

Wednesday/15

- 12:00p Communications Committee
- 1:00p FPC Librarian on site
- 4:30p DCLC
- 5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
- 6:15p Celebrate the Vision: worship

Thursday/16

- 9:30a Women's Bible Study
- 11:00a FPC Librarian on site
- 11:00a DCLC
- 11:30p Stewardship Committee
- 12:30p Finance Committee
- 6:00p Property Maintenance Committee
- 7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/17

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Saturday/18

- 10:00a FPC Handbell Choir rehearsal
- 6:00p BINGO for Rickman House residents

Sunday/19

- 8:45a All-Church Breakfast
- 9:00a Lectionary Study
- 9:15a Reading Aloud
- 9:30a FPC Choir rehearsal
- 10:00a Childcare
- 10:30a Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:45a Church School
- 11:45a Green P's forum on recycling electronics
- 12:00p All-Church Read
- 5:00p Annual Peace Service
- 5:00p Youth Group (*Richland FPC*)

Monday/20

- 1:00p Hearts-to-Hands Needleworkers
- 5:30p Personnel Committee
- 6:00p Health Ministry Committee

Tuesday/21

- 7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
- 10:00a FPC Archivists
- 10:00p Bulletin deadline
- 12:00p All-Church Read
- 1:15p Weekly Staff Meeting
- 7:00p Worship & Music Committee

Wednesday/22

- 1:00p FPC Librarian on site
- 4:30p DCLC
- 5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
- 6:15p Celebrate the Vision: worship
- 6:30p Session

Thursday/23

- 9:30a Women's Bible Study
- 11:00a FPC Librarian on site
- 11:00a DCLC
- 5:00p FPC Handbell Choir rehearsal
- 7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/24

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Saturday/25

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Sunday/26

- 9:00a Lectionary Study
- 9:15a Reading Aloud
- 9:30a FPC Choir rehearsal
- 9:30a Church School teachers' meeting
- 10:00a Childcare
- 10:30a Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:45a Church School
- 12:00p Chili Cook-off
- 5:00p Youth Group (*FPC hosts*)

Monday/27

- 6:30p Deacons meeting
- 7:00p Thoughtful Readers Book Group

Tuesday/28

- 7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
- 10:00p Bulletin deadline
- 10:00a FPC Archivists
- 12:00p All-Church Read
- 1:15p Weekly Staff Meeting

Wednesday/29

- 1:00p FPC Librarian on site
- 4:30p DCLC
- 5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
- 6:15p Celebrate the Vision: worship

Thursday/30

- 9:30a Women's Bible Study
- 11:00a FPC Librarian on site
- 11:00a DCLC
- 5:00p FPC Handbell Choir rehearsal
- 7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/31

(no FPC activities scheduled)

FPC Presbyter / Calendar - April, 2017

PLEASE NOTE:

A schedule of community groups that meet at FPC is on page 11 of this issue of the *Presbyter*.

Saturday/1

Deadline for deposit for July Mission Trip

Sunday/2

Deadline for ordering Easter flowers

9:00a Prayer Partners
9:00a Lectionary Study
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:30a FPC Choir rehearsal
10:00a Childcare
10:30a Worship in the Sanctuary
10:45a [no Church School]
12:00p All-Church Read
12:00p "Walk to Jerusalem" preparation
12:45p Ministry with Community
(FPC serves the meal today)
5:00p [no Youth Group/Spring Break]

Monday/3

1:00p Hearts-to-Hands Stitchers
6:30p Deacons' meeting
7:00p Green P's

Tuesday/4

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
10:00a FPC Archivists
10:00p Bulletin deadline
12:00p All-Church Read
1:15p Weekly Staff Meeting

Wednesday/5

9:00a Hearts-to-Hands Card Ministry
1:00p FPC Librarian on site
4:30p DCLC
5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
6:15p Celebrate the Vision: worship

Thursday/6

9:30a Women's Bible Study
11:00a FPC Librarian on site
11:00a DCLC
5:00p FPC Handbell Choir rehearsal
7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/7

1:00p Lunch Bunch (*off site*)

Saturday/8

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Sunday/9—PALM SUNDAY

9:00a Congregational Life Committee
9:00a Lectionary Study
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:30a FPC Choir rehearsal
10:00a Blessing of the Palms (B.Park)
10:00a Childcare
10:30a Worship in the Sanctuary
10:45a Church School
12:00p All-Church Read
5:00p [no Youth Group/Spring Break]

Monday/10

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Tuesday/11

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
10:00a FPC Archivists
10:00p Bulletin deadline
12:00p All-Church Read
1:15p Weekly Staff Meeting

Wednesday/12

1:00p FPC Librarian on site
3:00p Martha Circle
4:30p DCLC
5:30p Men's Monthly Wednesday Evening Group (*off site*)
5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
6:15p Celebrate the Vision: worship
7:00p Outreach Committee

Thursday/13—MAUNDY THURSDAY

9:30a Women's Bible Study
11:00a FPC Librarian on site
11:00a DCLC
11:30a Stewardship Committee
12:30p Finance Committee
6:00p Property Maintenance Committee
7:00p Maundy Thursday Worship in the Sanctuary
8:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/14—GOOD FRIDAY

7:00p Worship in the Sanctuary

Saturday/15

6:00p BINGO for Rickman House residents

Sunday/16—EASTER SUNDAY

8:45a All-Church Breakfast
9:00a Lectionary Study
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:30a Church School teachers' meeting
9:30a FPC Choir rehearsal
10:00a Childcare
10:30a Worship in the Sanctuary
Communion served
10:45a [no Church School]
5:00p [no Youth Group today]

Monday/17

Presbyter deadline for content

1:30p Hearts-to-Hands Needleworkers
5:30p Personnel Committee
6:00p Health Ministry Committee

Tuesday/18

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
10:00a FPC Archivists
10:00p Bulletin deadline
1:15p Weekly Staff Meeting
7:00p Worship and Music Committee

Wednesday/19

12:00p Communications Committee
1:00p FPC Librarian on site
4:30p DCLC
5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
6:15p Celebrate the Vision: worship

Thursday/20

9:30a Women's Bible Study
11:00a FPC Librarian on site
11:00a DCLC
12:00p Adult Christian Ed. Committee
5:00p FPC Handbell Choir rehearsal
7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/21

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Saturday/22

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Sunday/23

9:00a Lectionary Study
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:30a FPC Choir rehearsal
10:00a Childcare
10:30a Worship in the Sanctuary
10:45a Church School
12:00p New Member Class
5:00p Youth Group (*location t.b.a.*)

Monday/24

7:00p Thoughtful Readers

Tuesday/25

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
10:00a FPC Archivists
10:00p Bulletin deadline
1:15p Weekly Staff Meeting

Wednesday/26

Presbyter folding/labeling/mailling

1:00p FPC Librarian on site
4:30p DCLC
5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
6:15p Celebrate the Vision: worship
6:30p Session

Thursday/27

9:30a Women's Bible Study
11:00a FPC Librarian on site
11:00a DCLC
5:00p FPC Handbell Choir rehearsal
7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/28

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Saturday/29

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Sunday/30

9:00a Lectionary Study
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:30a FPC Choir rehearsal
10:00a Childcare
10:30a Worship in the Sanctuary
10:45a Church School
12:00p Healing Service
5:00p Youth Group (*location t.b.a.*)