



KALAMAZOO

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"A Sanctuary in the City... Living Faith"

321 West South St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

(269) 344-0119

www.sanctuaryinthecity.org

PRESBYTER

November-December 2017

October 25, 2017

Vol. 46, No. 6

WORSHIP OVERVIEW

Sunday Worship begins at 10:00 a.m.

November 5

22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Communion served

Revelation 7:9-17; Matthew 5:1-12

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer

November 12, 2017

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Psalms 78:1-7; Matthew 25:1-13

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer

November 19, 2017

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Judges 4:1-7, Psalms 123,

I Thessalonians 5:1-11,

Matthew 25:14-30

The Rev. Kathleen Robertson King

November 26, 2017

Reign of Christ Sunday

Communion served

Ezekiel 34:11-24; Ephesians 1:15-23

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer

December 3, 2017

First Sunday of Advent

1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer

December 10, 2017

Second Sunday of Advent

Mark 1:1-8, 2 Peter 3:8-15a

The Rev. Chrissy Westbury

Christmas Vespers — 5:00

December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; John 1:1-9, 19-23

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer

December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Luke 1:26-38; Luke 1:46-55

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer

Baptism

Family Service 5:00 p.m.

Candlelight Service 8:00 p.m. and

11:00 p.m.

Communion served

Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20

December 31, 2017

First Sunday after Christmas Day

Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Psalms 148,

Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:22-40

The Reverend Dr. Liz Candido

A MINUTE IN MINISTRY

Thanksgiving is in the air! Wait. What? Most of us will receive this *Presbyter* before Hallowe'en costumes and decorations are put away and the spooky fun is done. And then commercial marketing will move right on to Christmas. Not much money to be made from Thanksgiving, I guess. Still, I've always loved the holiday at least as much as any other. And over the years in ministry, I've come to appreciate the spirit and practice of giving thanks at the core of faith. I get why St. Paul expresses it so often in his letters to early followers of Jesus.

Like Paul, I cherish the fact that everything we do as a congregation begins with good people like you. Our witness to God's love in our world arises from our vision, our passion, our contributions of time, money, ability. Should I name examples? I could go on forever and leave someone out. As I've said before, gratitude is the beginning of faithfulness. Gratitude moves us to give in responses and invite others to share the effort. Out of gratitude, life grows even more. In St. Paul's letters, he always moves from expressing gratitude to calling for further, renewed faithfulness.

Let's be real, friends. Many of us, from varying perspectives and experiences, have felt it's been a bit of a rough time in life recently—culturally and personally. There's a place for lamentation—for expressing disappointment and processing anxiety. But if that's where we get stuck, then we're in the tomb.

And we are resurrection people. We trust God's power to bring new life. We begin to receive it and make it real when we see what's good. We name, claim, proclaim that goodness. We feel inspired to share it with others. And Christ is revealed in our loving witness.

There are many ways we can and should live that faith in our ordinary, everyday lives beyond church. And inasmuch as we feel gratitude for life together in our congregation, I urge you to express it through your support and commitment. It's not spooky, but I hope there's some fun in it. It's not for commercial success. There's no great secret to vital ministry in churches. People get involved. And people tell others about what's happening, to invite them to connect in some way. Yes, thanksgiving is in the air! In this season and throughout the year, I pray we'll all catch the spirit and cherish the gift of our life together!

As Paul wrote to the Philippians: "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:3-6)

Grace and peace to you,

Seth

The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer, Pastor

*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.*

ADVENT

VESPERS SERVICE

DECEMBER 10 — 6:00 P.M.

The Annual Advent Vespers Service will be held on Sunday, December 10, at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

This traditional service of lessons and carols will feature scripture readings, Christmas carols, choral music accompanied by an organ, and a brass quintet, including the Baroque work *Magnificat* by Francesco Durante, accompanied by strings. You are invited to experience this meaningful service presented in our candlelit sanctuary.

A SERVICE OF COMFORT AND HOPE DECEMBER 17—11:15A.M.

East Transept of the Sanctuary
immediately following Worship

The Christmas season can be a difficult time for those who are grieving a loss. And our losses are many and varied - not only of loved ones, but of a marriage or relationship, of a pregnancy, of a much-loved job, or of our physical abilities. All of these warrant mourning as part of our healing and finding our way forward in life.

The Health Ministries Committee invites any of our congregation who come to holidays with spirits dimmed by such losses to a Service of Comfort and Hope following Worship on Sunday, December 17. Whether you have come a long way in your journey with grief or are new to facing the pain of loss, you are most welcome at this service. In word and music, prayer and silence, candlelight and ritual, we will bring our hurt to our God of love, who comes to us again and again with the healing touch of Christ.

Associate Pastor Chrissy Westbury and Parish Associates Kathleen Robertson King and Larry Farris will lead this time of remembering, that we might glimpse the light amidst the darkness of loss.

December 3 / First Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. **Worship**

Preaching: The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

December 10 / Second Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. **Worship**

Preaching: The Reverend Chrissy Westbury
Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-13

5:40 p.m. **Musical Prelude featuring a guest brass quintet**

6:00 p.m. **Fifty-Fifth Annual Candlelight Vespers**

The Service of Lessons and Carols is one of the most beloved FPC Advent traditions. (see article at left)

December 17 / Third Sunday of Advent (2 services)

10:00 a.m. **Worship**

Preaching: The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Scripture: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; John 1:1-9, 19-23

11:15 a.m. **Service of Comfort and Hope**

Leader: The Reverend Larry Farris
(see article at left)

December 24 / Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. **Worship/ Baptism**

Preaching: The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Scripture: Luke 1:26-38; Luke 1:46-55

5:00 p.m. **Family Service**

8:00 p.m. **Candlelight Communion Worship Service**

Preaching: The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20

11:00 p.m. **Candlelight Communion Worship Service**

Preaching: The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20



CHRISTMAS EVE

CHRISTMAS EVE

- 10:00 a.m. Worship/ Baptism**
Preaching: The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Scripture: Luke 1:26-38; Luke 1:46-55
- 5:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Program**
"A Shepherd's Story"
Leader: Dr. Patricia Stromsta
This annual program will be presented by the children of FPC
- 7:45 p.m. Musical Prelude**
- 8:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Worship Service**
Preaching: The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20
- 10:30 p.m. Musical Prelude**
- 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Worship Service**
Preaching: The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE

The Children and Youth of FPC will present their annual Christmas Eve service at 5:00 p.m. This service tells the Christmas story through a children's drama, Scripture reading, and the singing of traditional Christmas Carols.

All children (young and old) who believe in the miracle and magic of the Christmas season and God's message of forgiveness, love, and peace are invited to attend with friends, family, and members of the community.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT AND COMMUNION SERVICE

On Christmas Eve at both 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m., we will share in our traditional service of Candlelight Communion.

With the Sanctuary adorned in holiday greens, and with candelabra lining the aisles and the front of the chancel, we will sense Holy Love coming into our lives. Along with prayers, carols, scripture readings, and a sermon, we will share Holy Communion on this special night. Bells will peal to herald the birth of Jesus. We will conclude our worship service by singing "Silent Night" by candlelight.

CHRISTMAS CHURCH ACTIVITIES

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

When: December 3, before and after Worship
Where: Gathering Place

The Annual Christmas Bazaar will be held on Sunday, December 3, from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m. and immediately following Worship until 12:00 p.m. Any group interested in participating may contact Carol Hutton, hutton6077@chartermi.net or 373-3980.

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH:

You are invited to a Christmas brunch at First Presbyterian Church.

When: December 10th after the morning worship service.
Where: Dining Room
Who: Children, families, adult members and friends of First Presbyterian Church

Egg dishes and drinks will be provided. Bring your favorite brunch dish (fruit, salad, baked goods, etc.) to share. Please sign up by December 3 on the sign-up sheet outside of Pat Stromsta's office so we know how many to prepare for.

DOES CHOCOLATE REALLY MAKE MUSIC SOUND BETTER? COME AND FIND OUT !

Please join us for the annual First Presbyterian Church Christmas Chocolate gathering: Bring yourselves, cookies to share if you can, and especially come ready for the most amazingly inspiring, rapturous, and ear-tuning chocolate goodness. No confessions required afterward; simply enjoy some fellowship and tasty treats, then migrate into the annual Christmas Vespers service immediately afterward.

When: December 10, at 5:00 p.m.
Where: Gathering Place

Don't worry. If you miss the chocolate beforehand, there just might be a little left over afterwards....

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

During the season of Advent & Christmas, we will be collecting the special offering known as the Christmas Joy Offering. This offering provides financial assistance to retired individuals and families who have dedicated their lives to the church; and it also supports leadership development and education for students attending Presbyterian-related Racial/Ethnic schools and colleges. It provides critical financial support for current and retired Presbyterian church workers in their times of need, and also provides leadership development and education to those who would otherwise not have the opportunity. Please give as you are able to this most important ministry!

CHILDREN'S ADVENT WREATH

Advent is a time of preparation for the birth of Christ. The word *advent* means "coming." During Advent, we celebrate the coming of Christ at Bethlehem, his coming into our hearts, and his Second Coming.

One of the most beloved traditions of the Advent Season at First Presbyterian Church is the children's assembling of a traditional Advent Wreath on the First Sunday of Advent (December 3rd). Advent wreaths are circular, representing God's infinite love, and are made of evergreen leaves. The wreath includes four candles—three purple and one pink.

Each candle on the Advent Wreath has a specific meaning:

- Candle 1 (purple) represents hope. It is often called the prophets' candle.
- Candle 2 (purple) represents peace. It is often called the angels' candle.
- Candle 3 (pink) represents joy. It is often called the shepherds' candle.
- Candle 4 (purple) represents love. It is often called the Bethlehem candle.

Many advent wreaths also include a Christ candle in the middle of the wreath.

Beginning with the first Sunday of Advent, the lighting of a candle can be accompanied by a Bible reading, devotional time, and prayers. An additional candle is lit during each subsequent week. During the busy Advent Season, taking time to light our Advent candles allows us to remember that Jesus is the reason for the season.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES

MONTHLY “LUNCH BUNCH”

Be part of a friendly group that lunches on the first Friday of every month at local venues around Kalamazoo and Portage.

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

Comensoli’s Italian Bistro, 762 W. Main, Kalamazoo. Make your reservations on or before Wednesday, November 1. Comensoli’s is located on the north side of West Main St. at the railroad tracks. The parking lot of behind the building. Please don’t be early!

Friday December 1, 1:00 p.m.

You can find more venue information in the bulletin closer to the date. Our Christmas Luncheon is still being planned, so watch for announcements in the bulletin and on the website. You can trust it to be a merry gathering with good food and fellowship.

HEARTS-TO-HANDS STITCHERS

Monday, November 6, at 1:00 in the Sewing Room. The project of the day is making items for the church Holiday Bazaar.

Monday, December 4, at 1:00 in the Sewing Room. We will be making fleece hats and mittens.

MARTHA CIRCLE

Martha Circle will meet on Wednesday, November 8, at 3:00 p.m. in the Church Lounge. Sue Thielman will provide refreshments, and Susan DeJong will lead a discussion of Lesson 8 in the Horizon Bible Study: “Who is Jesus, According to the Other Abrahamic Faiths?” Members of Martha Circle will bring and serve cookies for the Celebrate the Vision supper. All women are cordially invited.

Martha Circle will also meet on Wednesday, December 13, at 2:00 at the home of Jeanene Lewis. Each member will bring 3 dozen cookies for a cookie exchange, as well as cookies for the Celebrate the Vision supper. Also, each member will bring an unwrapped new toy for the Salvation Army toy drive. All women are welcome.

BUTTER BRAIDS

Thanks for purchasing Butter Braids again this year. Don’t forget to pick them up on Sundays, November 12 and 19 in the Dining Room, after Worship. ENJOY!



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

Fourth Monday of each month
at 5:30 p.m.

Crescendo Academy of Music

Occasional Sunday afternoons

Downtown Community Literacy Center (DCLC)

Wednesdays, 4:30—6:30 p.m.

Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES

VOCAL RECITAL

Sponsored by the Worship And Music Committee, recent WMU master's graduate Joel Snyder will present a recital of vocal music on November 18 at 7 p.m. in our Sanctuary. Joel has performed as a soloist with many organizations in the central Michigan area, including *Ars Voce*, the Battle Creek Symphony, Kellogg Community College, Branch County Community Chorus, and Portage Chapel Hill United Methodist Church. As a student at Western, he frequently performed solos with the University Chorale, Collegium Musicum, and Campus Choir, and sang the title role in WMU's production of Mozart's "*Le Nozze di Figaro*". On Nov. 18, other talented area musicians will join him to celebrate the music of Handel, Bach, Fauré, and Vaughan Williams, as well as choral music by Dan Forrest, and even vocal jazz. Don't miss this event!

DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY LITERACY CENTER

The DCLC is open on Wednesdays from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. and on Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

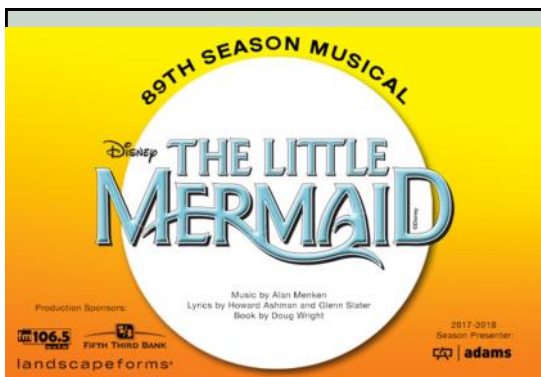
We are blessed with the following dedicated tutors: Tom Forsch, Mary Smyser, Lester Coleman, Sue Thayer, Marian Burkey, and Nancy Boutelle. Please let them know how much you appreciate their ministry.

Tutors are always needed! Please, if you would like to know more about this ministry and/or would be interested in becoming a tutor or serving in another way, talk with one of the tutors listed above, or contact Nancy Boutelle at (269) 615-3269.

The next training session will be at the Kalamazoo Literacy Center in January, 2018.

IONA PILGRIMAGE UPDATE

We have heard from staff at the Iona Abbey. Unfortunately, renovation work is more complicated than initially expected. They expect it will consume the entire summer 2018, and are, therefore, not accepting any guests. We will need to postpone our plans for a pilgrimage until summer, 2019. As the longing may continue to grow inside your heart, please contact Pastor Seth with any thoughts or questions.



THE LITTLE MERMAID

It's a magical kingdom beneath the sea! Disney's "The Little Mermaid" is a big splash of a family musical with eye-popping musical numbers and an award-winning score. A beautiful young mermaid named Ariel longs to leave her home to live in the world above. Twenty-seven years after the release of Disney's animated film, this love story continues to capture the hearts of young and old alike. Featuring the music audiences have grown to love, including "Part of Your World", "Kiss the Girl", and the Academy Award-winning "Under the Sea," Disney's *The Little Mermaid* continues the Civic's tradition of family-friendly musicals to ring in the holiday season!

54 seats have been reserved for members and friends of First Presbyterian Church on December 3 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets for adults are \$20.00, and for children, are \$15.00. Please reserve your tickets (indicate number of adults and children) on the sign-up sheet outside of Pat Stromsta's office (Room 206) by November 12. Make checks payable to the Kalamazoo Civic Theater.



November's Theme is GRATITUDE
 November 18 will be a JAZZ
 Worship Service!
December's Theme is PREPARATION

NEW SATURDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Come see what's growing at SEEDS
Saturday Evening Worship!
 5:00 p.m. in the Gathering Place

So, what is SEEDS, anyway?

SEEDS stands for Seeing God's Emerging and Evolving Direction and Sustaining love. Growing out of the desire for alternative times, spaces, and styles of worship identified by the Visioning Team, SEEDS is a different kind of worship, at a different time, and in a different space.

Each month, worship centers around a central theme, and each week, we do something a little different with the theme. We sing a combination of familiar hymns and newer worship songs.

We share together our joys and our heartaches. We celebrate, we lament, we pray. And above all, we worship God! SEEDS is a fidget-friendly zone.

Come as you are. Feel free to color, write, knit, or tweet your thoughts as we worship together, and as we ready our hearts and minds to celebrate light coming into the darkness of the world!

6th –12th grades

Youth Sunday School is held AFTER church at 11:15-12:15 p.m. in the Youth Room (lunch provided)

Pastor Chrissy, Kelsey Oliver, and others will lead this time of exploring the Bible, faith formation, and how we, as Christians, can respond to the world around us.

12:15-1:00 p.m. — Youth Music Programs with Cindy Hunter

5:00-7:00 p.m. — Community-Wide Youth Group

(see Youth Group calendar for weekly location)

REVO.LUTION
FPC YOUTH MINISTRIES

YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR

WHEN	WHERE	WHAT
Nov 5 (5-7)	FPC	Service Project
Nov 12 (5-7)	Richland	All Groups
Nov 19 (5-7)	Westminster	All Groups
Nov 26	No Youth Group	Enjoy Thanksgiving!
Dec 3 (5-7)	FPC	Christmas Party!

CONGREGATIONAL DEACONS

Class of 2017

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

Class of 2018

Mike Boersma
Dorothy Castor
Aedin Clements
Dan Dowswell
Nancy and Keith Johnson
Karen Nellums
Carolyn Neubauer
Donna Schonveld

Class of 2019

Tim Aldrich
Cynthia Feucht
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.

CHURCH REFORMED AND ALWAYS REFORMING

This month, many Christians celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. What actually happened long ago? What were root causes and effects? Is it all still relevant to our lives? If so, how can its legacy continue to inspire us today? Seth Weeldreyer will lead a three-part series exploring the Reformation, offered at two different times during the week. On Tuesdays at noon (10/31, 11/7, 11/14), we will meet in Room 300. On Sundays after Worship (11/5, 11/12, 11/19), we will meet in Room 301. Background reading materials will be available at the office reception desk. Topics for each week will be as follows:

10/31 and 11/15 – Reasons for Reformation: Culture and Causes
11/7 and 11/12 – Expressions of Reformation: Calvin and other Churches
11/14 and 11/19 – Ongoing Reformation: Legacies and Challenges for Today

Out of the Reformation came theological slogans and worship changes. And it was really all about ethics— that is, how we live every day. May we come to share insights and inspirations for living faith. Contact Seth with any questions.

CREATING A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Sundays, November 12 and 19

Many of us already practice some spiritual disciplines such as prayer, worship, Bible study, and giving — sometimes regularly, sometimes sporadically. Such practices are intended to enhance our awareness of God’s presence and work in our lives, and to ground us in God’s grace and love.

Parish Associate Larry Farris will help us explore both the wide range of such practices — and there are many! — and how we can incorporate those best suited to each of us into our daily walk with God, in a consistent and life-giving manner.

SESSION LISTENING POST

Elders Tim Henson and Diane Durian will be holding a Session “listening post” following the Worship service the first Sunday in November.

THOUGHTFUL READERS BOOK GROUP

Thoughtful Readers Book Group will meet on November 27 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 300 to discuss *The Paris Wife* by Paula McLain. A compelling story of ambition and betrayal, *The Paris Wife* captures a remarkable time, the expatriate lifestyle in 1920's Paris, and a love affair between two unforgettable people: Ernest Hemingway and his wife Hadley.

New members are always welcome. For more information, contact Kathy Campbell at (517) 803-0481. (We will not meet in December.)

HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

The holidays are upon us! The Health Ministry Committee wishes all a wonderful, safe, and healthy holiday season. The Health Ministry Committee is offering a class on November 5th. Pat Farris will be leading discussion on Haiti's Health Crisis. Pat is on the Board of the Haiti Nursing Foundation, and has been to Haiti several times, both on mission trips and to assist with the school and its students. She brings personal experience and observation to the discussion. You won't want to miss this! See you in rooms 314-315 right after church.

SUNDAY LECTIONARY CLASS

This class meets every Sunday in Room 302 from 8:45-9:40 a.m. to read aloud, learn more about, and discuss the Bible passages that are the basis of the day's sermon and service. Members of this group may volunteer to rotate leadership, but it's not required. We invite all members of the congregation to participate in this enriching fellowship, whether regularly or occasionally.

MONTHLY WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEN'S GROUP

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

December 13 (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. Contact Jeff Ross or Seth Weeldreyer with any questions.

White Privilege Conference 19
Grand Rapids, Michigan
April 4th-7th, 2018

W P C 1 9 G R

Super People & Superpowers: Prepare to be
the Future of Social Justice Work

See more information at

<https://www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/history-of-wpc>

Registration opens January 15, 2018

More information to come.

THURSDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: ADVENT STUDY

Spiritual Practices for the Season:
this study will begin on November 30th.
We meet at 9:30 a.m. for coffee, and
begin our study at 9:45a.m..
Childcare is available.



“Go on a spiritual journey this Advent with this four-session study written by Kathleen Long Bostrom. It introduces participants to several spiritual practices that can help improve their personal faith journeys. Each session includes Scripture for reflection, activities centered on Biblical passages that tell the Advent story, and a prayer practice. Featured prayer practices include breath prayers, centering prayers, doodle prayers, and light prayers.”

“Spiritual Practices for the Season.” *The-ThoughtfulChristian.com*,
www.thethoughtfulchristian.com/Products/Default.aspx?bookid=TC0607.

OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

2017-2018 PRESBYTERIAN GIVING CATALOG

If you are looking for “alternative giving”, the Giving Catalog offers many suggestions of gifts that will help those in need.

A gift of \$50 will buy a water filter that will supply safe water for a family, and will keep 300 empty bottles out of landfills. Or \$50 will provide a food basket to a refugee somewhere in the world who is struggling, and searching for a peaceful place to call home.

\$40 can buy a piglet that becomes a source of income for a family in need, or the \$40 will buy a container garden that will allow a family to grow food in small spaces, thereby providing them with nourishment and a source of income. Your gift of \$25 will buy a brood of chickens that will provide eggs for food and feathers for pillows, as well as fertilizer for crops. This will help improve the food security and the livelihoods of families around the world.

Generous gifts to the Presbyterian Giving Catalog are signs of our gratitude: feeding the hungry, comforting the brokenhearted, and sharing our faith with young and old. By joining our gifts together, however large or small, we expand our witness to God's gracious and abundant work in the world. Please look for the display of the "Giving Catalog" in the Gathering Place during Advent.

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” (Acts 20:35b).

EDISON SCHOOL OUTREACH PROJECT

Our adopted school has gone through a number of staff changes this school year. Because of these changes, it has taken a few weeks into the fall season before the teachers were “re-acclimated” to their class sizes and schedules.

“Thank you” to the 39 volunteers for your patience during this adjustment period. According to Joyce Petro, all classrooms are now covered for both tutoring and cupcake bakers. Ongoing needs include: wet wipes (large sizes), hand sanitizers, and ALWAYS snacks – such as pretzels and graham crackers.

We all know that education has been hit hard with budgetary cuts. Many teachers have had to buy classroom teaching tools out of their own pockets, without reimbursement from the “system”. They do it for the sake of the students. Your financial donations are greatly appreciated, as there are always special needs that arise, such as helping with field trips, buying books and special teaching supplies. We also help with snacks for a special Art Class held after school for our students. We purchase these supplies as they are needed, and as funds are available. You may write a check to FPC, marked: EDISON PROJECT.

For more information, please contact:

Joyce Petro - 342-6817 joyce@petroclan.com

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

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

Thank you, and may the Lord continue to guide us in this ministry.

P.S. Carol Smith is recuperating and expresses her hope to return to Edison in January! Please continue to lift her up in your thoughts and prayers.

RICKMAN HOUSE CHRISTMAS BINGO

For many years, First Presbyterian Church has been assisting the residents of Rickman House through a monthly Bingo program. The Rickman House is an assisted-living facility for adults with mental illness. The monthly FPC Bingo program combines donations of household and personal care items to the residents, with live entertainment. The big event of the year is Christmas Bingo, where we give additional prizes, such as warm coats and bus tokens. We also have a pizza party for the residents.

The Rickman House residents have indicated that they would like the following items: Winter coats and accessories like gloves and hats, dish towels, bath towels, body wash, perfume, calendars, hair products and accessories, make up, movies, toilet paper, Dial soap, paper towels, make-up bags, food items that can be prepared in a microwave, nail polish remover, and bus tokens.

The Rickman House Bingo team is also looking for additional volunteers to assist us. Please contact Mike Boersma at (269) 720-1409 or mike.boersma@gmail.com for more information.

OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

PAINTING NORMA BERRY'S HOUSE: VINE ST PROJECT

The repainting of a house means so much more when it complements other nearby positive initiatives. And such was the case this year. Of course the painting thrilled owner Norma Berry, who had yearned for many years to give her house a proper paint job. But it also reinforced the many good things happening on nearby streets. Though somewhat lagging behind other areas, this northwest section of Vine is seeing a build-up of owner occupants and of housing investments more generally. The City of Kalamazoo has undertaken a series of street re-pavings, as well as a major park renovation. Residents have banded together to reclaim the Oak Street Garden and to install/maintain corner flower gardens all through the area. The neighborhood's resurgence, here as in other sections of Vine, is well underway.

With strong support from Seth and our Outreach Committee, FPC again took the leading position in this fall's project. Pulling together the paperwork and overseeing the effort with First Congregational Church and Trinity Lutheran, Sam Clark played an essential coordinating role. The availability of funding from all three churches enabled us to hire both skilled carpenters to replace rotten siding and a professional painter to scrape off the old paint, re-nail loose siding, and otherwise prepare the house for painting. As the long-time owner of an older house on Oak St., Norma herself purchased the paint, furnished at a considerable discount by Vine's Douglas and Sons store.

So it was that a largely FPC painting crew primed a large portion of the house on a blistering hot Saturday, September 23rd. Suzanne Rose skillfully managed the paint and brushes; with contributions from a host of food preparers, Laura Boersma coordinated refreshments and lunch; and with help from all to keep ladders standing straight and safe, we managed to keep ourselves safe. Associate Pastor Chrissy Westbury proved to be one of the most intrepid and enthusiastic painters.

Powered the following Saturday by a skilled and fast-moving crew from First Congregational Church, and complemented by another strong volunteer contribution from FPC, we largely finished applying a full two coats of paint. How we loved it when the last sections of ugly old siding were covered and when the "accent color" of dark blue was applied to the front and side gables. Our professional painter returned early the following week to finish up a few difficult areas. Active from the very beginning of the project, Dave and Sue Johnson also returned to help complete it. We have so much to be grateful for: the individual contributions of some 40-50 volunteers drawn from all three participating churches; the provision of funds, both from the three churches and from Norma herself; the Vine Neighborhood Association's management of funds; the planning and coordinating functions provided by Sam Clark and Garrett Boersma; and not least of all, the blessedly good weather enjoyed on both painting days. Norma was a generous and unfailingly cheerful participating owner.

Here are her own words of thanks:

"I am so grateful, not only because my house is now visually gorgeous, but also because I had this wonderful, uplifting experience of several dozen strangers coming together to do something just for me, just because they wanted to. I've shared my story with friends and family, and in my happiness, also with perfect strangers. Almost no one is aware of this kind of generosity. Thank you for your kindness."

— Norma Berry



OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

An Urgent Message from Green Pete—THE GREEN P’S NEEDS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Since 2014, the Green P’s Committee has provided information to FPC members about caring for God’s creation in our daily life, through our congregational programs and in our outreach into the greater community. Now we would like to hear from you in answer to three questions (covering the last three years):

- During this time, what changes have you and your family made in your daily life to reduce your use of fossil-fuel generated energy, recycle and reuse stuff, and protect natural resources?
- How have you demonstrated earth care in your activities at church and in the community?
- Would you like to join our “Green Team”, either as a member of the committee, or as a volunteer to support earthcare centered action and education programs for children, youth, or adults?

*Please consider this: **We need to renew and enlarge our group— asap!***

- What new ideas do you have for “greening” our congregation and involving more folks in support our designation as a Presbyterian EarthCare Congregation?

HOW TO REPLY: Send to chrissy.westbury@kalamazoofirstpres.org, put a note in the Green P’s box in the church office, call Pastor Chrissy at (269) 344-0119, drop off a note at the green table in the Gathering Place on Sunday mornings, or speak to any member of the Committee, especially if you answer “yes” to #3!

Thank you in advance for your help! —Green Pete

NEW MEMBERS



**Steve Breisach
and Allison Myers**
Evan and Caroline,
children

Steve is a medical student at WMU, is an aspiring runner, and Allison is a medical scribe at iScribeMD. Allison teaches Sunday School here at FPC and has also been a Formation Minister of Christian Education at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church.

Steve and Allison are joining by letter of transfer from St. Luke’s Episcopal Church.



JoAnne Schreuder

JoAnne Schreuder has three grown children and moved to Michigan from California prior to coming to FPC.

JoAnne will join FPC by letter of transfer from
First Congregational Church
of Ramona, Ramona, CA.



**Micah Mechling and
Candice Parmley**

Micah Mechling said that a sense of community is what led him to FPC and for Candice Parmley it is the worship service and ministry that she most appreciates.

Both Candice and Micah are joining the church by profession of faith.

November & December Birthdays

NOVEMBER

1
 Mary Lou Boughton
 Sue Cole
 Mark Ohrstrom
 Joseph Sablan
2
 Dianne Hollenbeck
 Ellen Stults
3
 Kelsey Oliver
 Jim Stephenson
4
 Thomas Forsch
 Beth Jarl
 Annie Leong
 Mark Loehrke
 Ilon Weeldreyer
 JoAnn Yochim
5
 John Petro
6
 Jocelyn Hodgman
 Seth Weeldreyer
7
 Al Garcia
 Sandra Standish
8
(none)
9
 Miranda Howard
 Henry Klein
 James Steffey
10
 Conrad Angell
 Martin Baker
 Bridin Clements
11
 Ryan Cahill
 Teresa Cavanagh
 Loden Krueger
12
 Morden Schuur
13
 Carol Hutton
 David McShane
 Heather Misner
 Mary Lou Todd
 Peter Todd

14
 Jay Heckler
 Carter Macomber
 Katie Munn
 Bruce Rigg
15
 Miriam Bauserman
 Warren Misner
 Lizzie Stewart
16
 Gabriel Weeldreyer
 Louise Wright
17
 Joe Agostinelli
 Michael Palmer
 Ann Parfet
18
 Andrew Arwady
 Billy Card
 Belinda Drok
 Ailih Weeldreyer
19
 Victoria Coleman
 Melissa Grupe
 Dean Panse
 James Stefl
20
 Kari Crook
 Robin Davis-McNabb
 Sandra Dennehy
 Megan Phee
 Michael Ward
21
 Joni Cheney
 Grace Cook
 Dorothy Larkin
 Jo Russell
 David Warren
22
 Mackenzie Hunter
 Greg Leder
 Matt Ohrstrom
 Ann Ridge
23
 Sabrina Johnson
 Preston Meeker
24
 David Fenton
 Barbara Graham-Palmer
 Elizabeth Kiewiet
 Marlena Kirton

25
 Chuck Thiele
26
 Warner Stears
27
 Alexandria Howard
28
 RJ Davis
 Susan Kremer
 Vic Onweller
 Sheliah Tramel
29
 Dylan Davis
 Diane Eberts
 Tish Loveless
 Karen Nellums
30
 Wendy Beckwith
 Jamie Cloetingh
 Terri Hunter

DECEMBER

1
 Andrew Allen
 Betty Bridges
 Suzanne Busby
2
 Rosemary Coryell
 John Gauntlett
 Michelle Warren
3
 Kendall Cheney
 Janet Gladstone
 Nathan Murray
4
 Jeff Ross
5
 Sairi Elliott
 Barbara Johnson
 Tom Michelhaugh
 Braedon Peterik
 Christina Selander
6
 Donita DeBruin
 Sharon Gatewood
 Elizabeth Novak
 Carol Schreiner
 Evan Wenger

7
 Mark Longman
8
 Ericka Angell
 Kevin King
 Noel Ocen-Gorgone
 Ann Ross
9
 Wilma Cooper
 Eugene Erdos
 Laura Fouty
 Thomas Kasdorf
 Sawyer Miedema
 Michael Pessetti
 Barbara Rider
10
 John Cooper
11
 Carolyn Ehrnstrom
 Ann Johnson
 Nancy Thiele
12
 Erin Gladstone
13
 Emily Lawing
14
 Gary Beckwith
15
 Alex Rey
16
 Elizabeth Money
 Timothy Munn
 Douglas Veech
17
 Stuart Deming
 Christopher Haite
 Julie Heath
 Andrew Stults
18
 Mike Hammond
 Fred Sammons
 Mim Shannon
19
 Danielle Harik
20
 Kevin Shaffer
21
 Janet Lawing
 Krista Matthews
 Shelley Rylander
 Judy Smith

22
 Michael Boersma
 Catherine Chase
 Ted Crook
 Lynn Russell
23
 Denise Freed
 Rick Russell
24
 Hunter Fisk
 Timothy Lenderink
 Donald Meldrum
25
 Tiffany Hubbard
 David Potsic
26
 Mira Graziano
 Stacy McGruder
 Steve Pifer
27
 Chrissie Hajek
 Ruth Michelhaugh
 John Robbins II
 Kenneth Sparks
28
 Jack Molitor
 Shawn Smith
 Jackie Stults
 Toni Tyler
29
 Alan Chase
 Jerry Meinzinger
30
 Allison Hammond
 Emma Neill
 Carolyn Neubauer
 AnneMarie Snyder
31
(none)

SESSION—2017

Clerk of Session: Allison Hammond

Sam Beals (2018)

*Property Maintenance
Congregational Life

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, Christian Education

Janet Todd (2017)

Christian Education
Congregational Life

Laurie Tupper (2019)

*Outreach, Property Maintenance

Jim Van Buren (2017)

*Stewardship, *Communications,
Finance, Outreach,

Phil Ward (2017)

Property Maintenance

Jonathan Willoughby (2018)

*Endowment, Finance, Stewardship

Pamela Zandt (2018)

Finance, Personnel

50-year FPC Anniversaries

50-Plus Years—Congratulations!

As a monthly feature, each *Presbyter* includes an “anniversary-by-month” list of our longtime members who have been a part of the FPC family for fifty years or more. These lists include the name of each member by the month of his or her joining the church, and includes only those who have been members for 50 years or more.

The entire list for the year is printed in the FPC Annual Report.

YEARS OF FPC MEMBERSHIP

DECEMBER Anniversaries

<u>Name of Member</u>	<u>Date Joined</u>	<u># Years</u>
Ruth Moser	Dec. 29, 1953	64
Marjorie St. Mary	Dec. 30, 1964	53
Nancy Owen	Dec. 30, 1965	52
Thomas Owen	Dec. 30, 1965	52

IN MEMORIAM

Daphne Ione Ambrose was born on October 15, 1927, and joined FPC on March 11, 2001. Ione died on August 30, 2017.

Margaret Pifer was born on August 12, 1920, and joined FPC on April 15, 1965. Margaret died on September 24, 2017.

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, even on 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

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

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, ucmkrking@yahoo.com

Pastor Emeritus: The Reverend Dr. David W. McShane

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 served at all communion services at First Presbyterian Church.

PRESBYTER

As we recognize how communication patterns are changing, and as we attempt to be good stewards of our resources, our congregation will move to publishing the *Presbyter* six times per year in bi-monthly editions. 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>
January-February	December 11	December 20
March-April	February 12	February 21
May-June	April 16	April 25
July-August	June 18	June 29

Many of our members receive the *Presbyter* newsletter via e-mail only, in order to help the church conserve paper and other resources. If you would like to have your name removed from the USPS mailing list, contact Ann Johnson at ann.johnson@kalamazoofirstpres.org or 344-0119.

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



FPC STAFF

(269) 344-0119

(telephone extensions are listed below)

Pastor

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

Associate Pastor

The Reverend Chrissy Westbury
chrissy.westbury@kalamazoofirstpres.org
 Ext. 203

Christian Education Director

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

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

Communications Coordinator

Anna Barnhart
anna.barnhart@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 Receptionists (Ext. 221)

Sam Clark
Nik DeHaan
Nate Owens

FPC Calendar - November, 2017

Wednesday/1

9:00a Hearts-to-Hands Card Ministry
1:00p FPC Librarian on site
5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Thursday/2

9:30a Women's Bible Study
11:00a FPC Librarian on site
12:00p Adult Ed Committee meeting

Friday/3

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

Saturday/4

5:00p SEEDS worship service

Sunday/5

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

9:00a Prayer Partners
8:45a Lectionary Study
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal
9:45a Childcare
10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary
Communion served
10:15a Church School
11:15a Youth Sunday School
11:15a Haiti Healthcare
11:15a Reasons for Reformation class
12:15p Youth Music
12:45p Ministry with Community
(*FPC serves the meal today*)
1:00p Michigan Festival of Sacred Music
5:00p No Revolution Youth Group

Monday/6

1:00p Hearts-to-Hands Stitchers
6:30p Deacons

Tuesday/7

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
12:00p Bulletin deadline
1:00p FPC Archivists
11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting
12:00p Expressions of Reformation class
7:00p Green P's

Wednesday/8

1:00p FPC Librarian on site
3:00p Martha Circle
5:30p Men's 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
12:00p Adult Ed Committee meeting
5:00p Handbell Choir rehearsal
6:00p Prop. Maintenance Committee
7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/10 No activities scheduled

Saturday/11

5:00p SEEDS worship service

Sunday/12

9:00a Congregational Life Committee meeting
8:45a Lectionary Study
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal
9:45a Childcare
10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary
10:15a Church School
11:15a Creating a Spiritual Practice: class
11:15a Expressions of Reformation: class
11:15a Youth Sunday School
12:15a Youth Music
5:00p Revolution: Youth Group

Monday/13

Tuesday/14

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
12:00p Bulletin deadline
1:00p FPC Archivists
11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting
12:00p Ongoing Reformation class
7:00p Worship & Music Committee

Wednesday/15

12:00p Communications Committee
1:00p FPC Librarian on site
5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
6:30p Women's Bible Study

Thursday/16

9:30a Women's Bible Study
11:00a FPC Librarian on site
11:30a Stewardship Committee
12:30p Finance Committee
5:00p Handbell Choir
7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/17

Saturday/18

5:00p SEEDS worship service
6:00p BINGO for Rickman House residents
7:00p Joel Snyder Recital

Sunday/19

8:15a All-Church Breakfast
8:45a Lectionary Study
9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal
9:00a Church School teachers' meeting
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:45a Childcare
10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary
10:15a Church School
11:15a Creating a Spiritual Practice: class
11:15a Ongoing Reformation: class
11:15a Youth Sunday School
12:15p Youth Music
5:00p Revolution youth group

Monday/20

12:00p Bulletin deadline (early this week, due to Thanksgiving)
5:30p Personnel Committee
6:00p Health Ministry Committee

Tuesday/21

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
10:00a FPC Archivists
11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting

Wednesday/22

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

Thursday/23

THANKSGIVING DAY

Friday/24

HOLIDAY (Church building closed)

Saturday/25

5:00p SEEDS worship service

Sunday/26

8:45a Lectionary Study
9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:45a Childcare
10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary
Communion served
10:45a Church School
11:15a (No Youth Sunday School)
12:15a (No Youth Music)
5:00p (No Revolution Youth Group)

Monday/27

7:00p Thoughtful Readers

Tuesday/28

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
10:00a FPC Archivists
11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting
12:00p Bulletin deadline

Wednesday/29

1:00p FPC Librarian on site
5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner

Thursday/30

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

PLEASE NOTE:

A schedule of community groups that meet at FPC is on page 12 of this issue of the *Presbyter*.

FPC Calendar - December, 2017

PLEASE NOTE:

A schedule of community groups that meet at FPC is on page 12 of this issue of the *Presbyter*.

Friday/1

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

Saturday/2

5:00p SEEDS worship service

Sunday/3

8:45a Lectionary Study

9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal

9:00a Bazaar

9:15a Reading Aloud

9:45a Childcare

10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary

10:45a Church School

11:00a Bazaar

11:15a Youth Sunday School

12:15a Youth Music

12:45p Ministry with Community
(*FPC serves the meal today*)

5:00p Revolution Youth Group

Monday/4

1:00p Hearts-to-Hands Stitchers

Tuesday/5

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group

11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting

12:00p Bulletin deadline

1:00p FPC Archivists

7:00p Green P's

Wednesday/6

9:00a Hearts-to-Hands Card Ministry

1:00p FPC Librarian on site

5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner

Thursday/7

9:30a Women's Bible Study

11:00a FPC Librarian on site

5:00p Handbell Choir rehearsal

7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/8**Saturday/9**

5:00p SEEDS worship service

Sunday/10

8:45a Lectionary Study

9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal

9:00a Congregational Life Committee

9:15a Reading Aloud

9:45a Childcare

10:30a Worship in the Sanctuary

10:45a Church School

11:15a Youth Sunday School

12:15a Youth Music

12:00p Christmas Brunch

5:00p (No) Revolution Youth Group

5:00p Christmas Chocolate

6:00p Candlelight Vespers service

Monday/11

Presbyter—deadline for articles

Tuesday/12

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group

10:00a FPC Archivists

11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting

12:00p Bulletin deadline

7:00p Worship and Music Committee

Wednesday/13

1:00p FPC Librarian on site

3:00p Martha Circle

5:30p Men's Group (*off site*)

5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner

6:15p Celebrate the Vision: worship

7:00p Outreach Committee

Thursday/14

9:30a Women's Bible Study

11:00a FPC Librarian on site

11:30p Stewardship Committee

12:30p Finance Committee

5:00p Handbell Choir rehearsal

6:00p Property Maintenance Comm.

7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/15**Saturday/16**

5:00p SEEDS worship service

6:00p BINGO for Rickman House
residents

Sunday/17

8:30a All-Church Breakfast

8:45a Lectionary Study

9:00a Church School teachers' mtg.

9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal

9:15a Reading Aloud

9:45a Childcare

10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary

10:15a Church School

11:15a Youth Sunday School

12:15a Youth Music

5:00p (No Revolution Youth Group)

Monday/18

5:30p Personnel Committee

6:00p Health Ministry Committee

Tuesday/19

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group

10:00a FPC Archivists

11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting

12:00p Bulletin deadline

Wednesday/20

8:00a Presbyter fold

12:00p Communications Committee

1:00p FPC Librarian on site

5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner

6:15p Celebrate the Vision: worship

6:30p Womens' Bible Study

Thursday/21

9:30a Women's Bible Study

11:00a FPC Librarian on site

5:00p Handbell Choir rehearsal

7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/22**Saturday/23**

5:00p SEEDS worship service

Sunday/24—CHRISTMAS EVE

8:45a Lectionary Study

9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal

9:15a Reading Aloud

9:45a Childcare

10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary

10:45a Church School

11:15a (No Youth Sunday school)

12:15a (No Youth music)

5:00p (No Revolution Youth Group)

5:00p Family Christmas Eve service

8:00p Candlelight Christmas Eve service

11:00p Candlelight Christmas Eve service

Monday/25—CHRISTMAS DAY

Church Building closed today

Tuesday/26

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group

10:00a FPC Archivists

11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting

12:00p Bulletin deadline

Wednesday/27

1:00p FPC Librarian on site

5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner only

6:30p Session

Thursday/28

9:30a Women's Bible Study today

11:00a FPC Librarian on site

7:00p (NO FPC Choir rehearsal)

Friday/29**Saturday/30**

5:00p SEEDS worship service

Sunday/31—NEW YEAR'S EVE**NEW YEAR'S FEST OF KALAMAZOO**

8:45a Lectionary Study

9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal

9:15a Reading Aloud

9:45a Childcare

10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary

10:45a Church School

11:15a (No Youth Sunday School)

12:15a (No Youth Music)

5:00p (No Revolution Youth Group)