

321 West South St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

(269) 344-0119

www.sanctuaryinthecity.org

WORSHIP OVERVIEW

~ September ~

September 1

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Chrissy Westbury
Genesis 1:27-28; Jeremiah 2:4-13
Luke 14:1, 7-14

September 8

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Communion served

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Psalm 139:1-18, 23-24;
Colossians 3:1-4, 8-17

September 15

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Exodus 32:1-8, 15-20;
Matthew 5:1-12; 7:12-28

September 22

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Isaiah 40:1-11 and Luke 15:1-10

September 29

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Luke 10:25-37 and Acts 11:1-18

I've returned from Sabbatical! I am grateful for the time of renewal, and grateful to be home again with all of you! For the past couple of weeks, I've been listening, catching up, looking ahead, and starting to walk with you again. Here are a few short points about my sabbatical period and events in our congregation upon my return. They skim the surface of depths beneath; please connect with me if you'd like to know more.

First, a huge expression of gratitude to Chrissy for her leadership in my absence. I've heard many compliments! Everything is in good lively order upon my return. In that spirit, I'm also grateful to other clergy Kathleen, Liz, Larry, and Amber, as well as Ann and Pat for the effort they've invested in recent months. I could surely extend thanksgiving (as in my heart) to so many others among us. Even though I'm unaware of what you've done particularly, please know I'm grateful. One repeated point of my reflection while away has been how strong we are together—the loving efforts of every individual, together as the presence of Christ—and how much I cherish it!

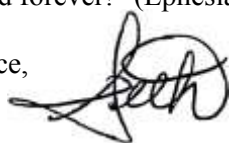
Here's a brief summary of what I experienced on sabbatical. I'll offer pictures and other reflection on Sunday, September 8 at 11:30, if you're interested.

- My pilgrimage on *El Camino de Santiago* in Spain took just under four weeks. Honestly, I don't know how many miles I walked – a very long way. I walked with a Presbyterian pastor friend for the first ten days, then alone / with many other new companions I met on the way.
- Other retreat experiences included a week at the Monastery of the Holy Spirit near Atlanta, Georgia, a convocation for CREDO faculty, a week at the Chautauqua Institution (theme: Grace), and much time reading a stack of books too long to list, as well as a bit of writing / imagining / planning.
- Projects around our home included constructing a prayer labyrinth, screening in our porch, building a fenced-in garden, and other ways to utilize my love for woodworking / home projects.
- Vacation time spent with family in North Carolina, at a cottage near Traverse City, and following our son in Carolina Crown with Drum Corps International.

One note about our congregation in months ahead relates to Pine Island Presbyterian Church. You may know that they have gathered in the Texas Corners area for decades. In recent months they worked through a process to discern their future. In August, they voted to combine with our congregation. There remain many questions to pursue and details to address. Our responsible Elders on Session will begin work at our August meeting. We'll be as transparent and informative as possible. Please know that one major effort we all need to share is the welcome and development of relationships. Your warm smile, friendly words, helpful practical tips or directions will be crucial to helping new kin in Christ find their way among us. Again, these are very early days in the process. We expect Pine Island folks to start joining us actively later in the fall, with hopes to wrap up formalities by the end of the calendar year. If you would like to help with these welcoming and integrating efforts, please let Chrissy or me know.

"And now to God, who by the power at work among us accomplishes abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Jesus Christ, now and forever!" (Ephesians 3:20-21)

Grace and Peace,



*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.*

Church News

WORSHIP OVERVIEW

~ October ~

October 6

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion served

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Isaiah 55:1-13; Romans 12:9-21

October 13

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Psalm 63:1-8; Luke 17:11-19

October 20

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Chrissy Westbury
Job 38:1-7, 42:1-6; Mark 10:35-45

October 27

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Psalm 65; Luke 19:1-10

Sunday Evening Worship

1st and 3rd Sundays of every month

7:00 p.m.

September 1: Lectio Divina Worship
A contemplative walk through Scripture

September 15: Taizé Worship

October 6: Make a Joyful Noise Worship
*Share in making music and sharing
our stories of Joyful Noise*

October 20: Taizé Worship

SESSION

Clerk of Session:
Allison Hammond

CLASS OF 2019

Richard Coryell
Diane Durian
Don Meldrum
Heather Misner
Laurie Tupper
Jim Van Buren

CLASS OF 2020

Mary Lou Boughton
Laura Ford
Craig Kortlandt
David Rozelle
Janet Todd
Pamela Tritsch
Philip Ward

CLASS OF 2021

Heather Cloetingh
Stuart Deming
Liz Hamilton
Elaine Johns
Sue Johnson
Brian Nederveld
Scott Wilson

IONA PILGRIMAGE: SUMMER, 2020

On Sunday, October 13, at noon in Room 301, following the luncheon, Pastor Seth will offer time to explore a pilgrimage to the Iona Abbey in Scotland for next summer, 2020. As in past occasions, the centerpiece of pilgrimage will be spending a week in the Iona Abbey, where we worship and reflect of living faith together, and share a number of other activities with people from around the world. We will also share some touring of Scotland on the way to Iona and after leaving the islands, seeing highlights of history, culture, and contemporary life. Accommodations at the Iona Abbey have been undergoing major refurbishment for the past year, and the exact date of reopening is not yet clear.

Once the date is published and applications for groups are open again, we'll likely need to act quickly. If you are interested, please come to the meeting on October 13, and / or contact Pastor Seth.

SABBATICAL REFLECTION

On Sunday September 8, at 11:30 a.m. in Room 314 / 315, Pastor Seth will offer a little reflection on his sabbatical experience this past summer, especially walking *El Camino de Santiago* in Spain. There will be pictures and insights gleaned and questions to consider together further as we share witness to God's love in Jesus Christ.

HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

The Health Ministry continues with its monthly offerings.

Please join us for the upcoming classes, Healing Services and blood pressure checks.

September 1 – No blood pressure check this Sunday

September 8 – Healing Service, in the East Transept, after Worship

September's Health Promotion class will **not** take place

due to other offerings this month.

October 6 – Blood Pressure check after Worship

October 20 – Health Promotion Class with Laura Ford, Room 302,
after Worship



DEACONS' NEWS: THE GATHERING PLACE

Hosted by the Deacons,
your place to meet and greet
and exchange the news
over a mini sweet treat.

Tea, coffee, or juice are also on tap.
And if you skipped breakfast
fruit and cheese fill that gap.

There's also a coffee cart,
Fair Trade goods and all.
Whole beans or pre-ground,
it's really your call.

The Deacons provide this
with joy in our hearts,
but it is self-supporting.
Your "tips" play a part.

So, come one, come all
to The Gathering Grounds,
where smiles, cheer, and coffee
always abound.

CONGREGATIONAL DEACONS

Class of 2019

Tim Aldrich
Cynthia Feucht
Karen Hassler
Judy Johnson
Wendy King
Louise McCallum

Class of 2020

Donita and Gary DeBruin
Susan DeJong
John and Lisa Diamond
Miranda Howard
Bruce and Ruth Lubbers
Jim Stephenson

Class of 2021

Mike Boersma
Aedín Clements
Kathy Cooney
Martha Flynn
Karen Nellums
Jo Russell

Please note:

If any of your contact information has changed, 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.

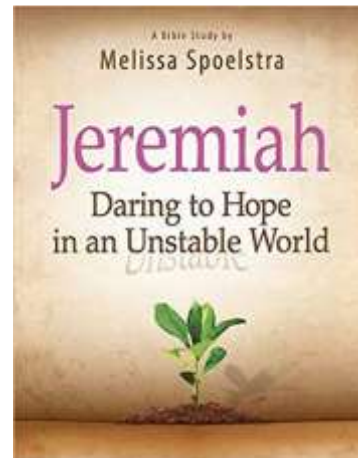
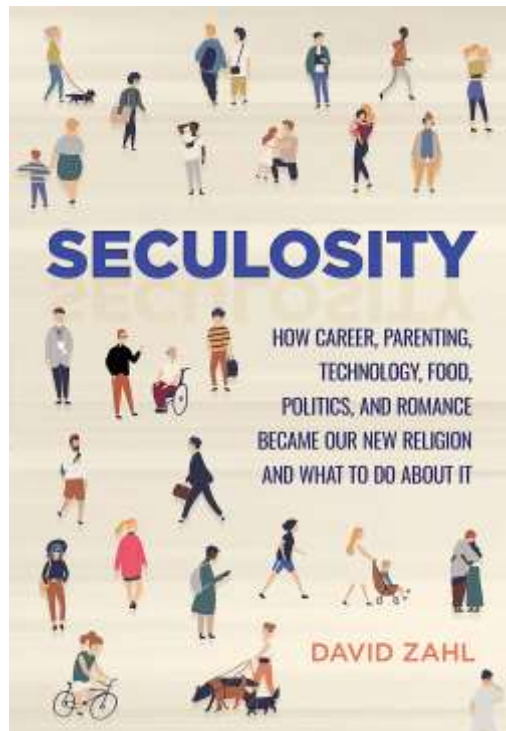
THANK YOU!

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

Christian Education

TUESDAY NOON BOOK DISCUSSION

Tuesdays at noon in Room 300, Pastor Seth will again host reflection on living faith. This fall, we'll read *Seculosity*, by David Zahl. In our culture, church attendance has declined. Religiosity has migrated to other secular patterns and perspectives that shape our life. Zahl reflects on the "seculosity" of busyness, romance, parenting, technology, work, leisure, food, politics. It's a book Pastor Seth read on sabbatical and finds relevant amid realities of life we face. It's a great book for people of all ages, as we consider our personal lives and wider society! It's a quicker, easier read. **We'll begin on September 10**, with the first two chapters—busyness and romance. The book is available at a local bookseller, Amazon, etc. Please contact Seth with any questions!



WOMENS' THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

When we look around at today's world, hope usually isn't the first word that comes to mind. In many ways we live in an unstable world.

In the Book of Jeremiah, we find God calling out to His people with a message of hope—a message that intentional living is possible even in an unstable world. But how do we do this? Where do we start?

Jeremiah offers hope for living in an uncertain world by learning to navigate the challenges and circumstances of our lives. This study examines God's words of instruction to His wayward people through the prophet Jeremiah, and provides guidelines for intentional living to overcome fear, worry, and doubt as they surrender their wills to God's and put their hope in Him alone.

Combining rich study of the Book of Jeremiah with practical life application that resonates with the realities and experiences of today, this study inspires us to dare to hope, remembering that God is rich in mercy and love and has good plans for us.

This class will begin on September 12. We meet for coffee at 9:30 and our study begins at 9:45. Jamie Tuin provides child care in our nursery.

Christian Education

DISMANTLING STRUCTURAL RACISM

Racism is deeply embedded in the life and history of the U.S. Through colonization, slavery, and a shameful history of legislative action and judicial pronouncements, our nation created and embraced a system that valued and devalued people based simply on skin color and ethnic identity.

There is a growing awareness among Presbyterians that racism is a crisis and must be addressed. The PC(USA) is strongly committed to the struggle for racial justice. Here, in our church, presentations and discussions are being planned that will support the initiative of our Matthew 25 journey, as we work toward becoming a “**Just Sanctuary**”.

Please mark your calendar for the first event: on Sunday, September 22, immediately after Worship, Matt Smith, a librarian at the Kalamazoo Public Library, will present “How FDR Segregated Kalamazoo”. This presentation will begin at 11:30 in Room 314-315.

The schedule for future presentation/discussions that will begin on Sundays at 11:30:

- October 6: Biblical Imperative to Antiracism
- October 13: Envisioning a New Way of Life Together
- October 20: PC(USA) and Racial Reconciliation
- October 27: David Brose presentation on Native Americans in Kalamazoo
- November 3: Racism 101
- November 10: Enduring Legacy of Racism in the U.S.
- November 17: Responding as a Community
- November 24: Guest speaker from El Concilio

The **Just Sanctuary** Committee: MaryLou Boughton, Allison Hammond, Sue Johnson, Bev Murray, Wendy King, Kathleen Robertson-King, Donna Schonveld, Pat Stromsta, and Chrissy Westbury.

FELLOWSHIP 456

Fellowship Group for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders!

Kids in grades 4-6 are in an interesting, transitional situation.

They're kids who sometimes identify with teens much better than with elementary school kids. They're full of energy, forward looking and ready to move on. And they have a unique set of needs. That's why we have Fellowship 456 — a ministry designed for kids in transition.

We will gather on the second Friday of each month for fun, fellowship, and mission.

September 13, - 6-8 p.m.: Food and Fun Night at the church
(including Human Hungry, Hungry Hippos!!)

October 11, 6-8 p.m.: Bowling Night (location TBD)

For more information, or to volunteer with this group, contact Pastor Chrissy Westbury or Director of Christian Education, Pat Stromsta.



Christian Education



FPC YOUTH MINISTRIES (FOR 6TH-12TH GRADERS)

The year kicks off on September 8 for Faith Formation and Music,
and on September 15 for Youth Fellowship!
(Can't wait to see you!)

All 6th - 12th graders, come join us on Sundays!

11:15-12:15 Faith Formation: Pastor Chrissy and others will lead this time to explore the Bible, faith formation, and how we, as Christians, can respond to the world around us.

12:15-1:00 Youth Music Programs with Cindy Hunter

5:00-7:00 Community-Wide Youth Fellowship (see Youth Group calendar for the weekly location)

FPC is fortunate to share youth fellowship with four other area Presbyterian Churches:
First Presbyterian Church Richland, Westminster, Pine Island and North Presbyterian Churches.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

WHEN	WHERE	WHAT
September 15	Pine Island Garden on Q Avenue	Kick-Off with Dinner, Games, Songs, and S'mores!
September 22	FPC	Youth Fellowship
September 28-29	Richland	FALL LOCK-IN!
October 6	Ministry with Community Special Time, 1:00 P.M.	Service Project: Serving lunch for our neighbors
October 13	Richland	Youth Fellowship
October 20	FPC	Youth Fellowship
October 28	FPC	Halloween Party!
Nov 1-3	Camp Greenwood	Urban Plunge Retreat

Christian Education

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS (AND SHEPHERDS)

Preschool (306)

Cindy Gleaton (Sherry Sorensen)
Liz Hamilton
Deb Taylor (Colleen Sherrill)

Kindergarten/1st Grade (308)

Karen Hassler (Janine Loughrin)
Amy Miedema (Wendy Miedema)
Angela Van Heest

2nd and 3rd Grade (305)

Lisa Diamond (John Diamond)
Cynthia Feucht (Laurie Tupper)
Allison Myers (Steve Breisach)

4th/5th Grade (303/304)

Amy Bell
Heather Cloetingh (Grace Cook)
Rick Taylor (Patrick Gleaton)

Youth

Allison Hammond, Mike Hammond, Craig Oliver, Kelsey Oliver (Chrissy Westbury)

Childcare

Aedín Clements, Bev Murray, Jamie Tuin, Kirsten Yohe,

Hall Monitors

Mike Hammond (Lead), Chris Gleaton, Craig Kortlandt, Neil Miedema, Chris Palmer, Catherine and Robert Wall Emerson

CHURCH SCHOOL CALENDAR

Sept. 8	Commission Church School Teachers Meet Teachers/Classroom Visits Communion	
Sept. 15	C.S. Teachers' Meeting	1: Moses and the Burning Bush
Sept. 22		2: Loving God
Sept. 29	C.E. Meeting	3: Loving Others
Oct. 6	Communion	The People Give God Thanks
Oct. 13		4: What do the Stones Mean?
Oct. 20	C.S. Teachers' Meeting	5: Your God Shall Be My God
Oct. 27	Reformation Sunday	6: David Brings the Ark to Jerusalem

Church Activities

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 Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH

First Friday of the month at 1:00 p.m.

September: Our final summer gathering will be on September 7 as we return to Theo & Stacey's. This fine restaurant is located at 5225 Portage Road (near the airport). We will meet at 1 p.m. Please make your reservations at the church receptionist's desk by noon on Thursday, September 6, or call the church at 344-0119.

If you have questions or need transportation, call Tom & Sue Forsch at 353-3903.

You are invited to join the Out-to-Lunch Bunch on the First Friday of each month. Reservations required at the church by the Thursday morning before the luncheon.

October 4 Fletcher's Pub
3013 Oakland Drive

November 1 Riviera Maya
5036 S. Westnedge Ave.

LADIES' 30'S/40'S ACTIVITY GROUP

Ladies' 30's/40's group: if you would like to be kept up to date on the monthly social activities of the ladies group, please email amberbeals@gmail.com or text Amber at 269-303-1673, and we'll add you to our communications!

MONTHLY CHURCH BREAKFASTS BEGIN AGAIN SEPTEMBER 15

Mark your calendar now for September 15 and every third Sunday, each month through May, 2020. It is the All-Church family breakfast in the dining room, hosted by FPC Men's Fellowship. Arrive any time between 8:15 and 9:30 a.m. and enjoy pancakes, eggs, sausage, fruit, drink, and fellowship. Proceeds go to the church in the ongoing support of Wednesday evening meals for Celebrate the Vision. Last year, the congregation raised \$2,249.80 through church breakfasts, covering about one third of CTV's costs.

We invite more families committed to enjoying breakfast at church once a month and perhaps one-half the cost will be covered this coming year. Yes, mark that calendar now to skip breakfast at home and join us for breakfast the third Sunday of each month through May!

Church Activities

SAVE OCTOBER 6 FOR FALL FAMILY FUN!

The 2019 First Presbyterian Fall Fun Day will be Sunday, October 6! Please mark your calendars for festivities the afternoon of October 6, following church.

At a farm near Kalamazoo, we will enjoy crisp apples and cider, donuts, and lots of fun for children and adults of all ages. In addition to spending time with your First Presbyterian Church friends, you'll be able to enjoy the changing colors of leaves and an assortment of farm animals and games.

Remember to mark your calendars for October 6 and watch the bulletin for all of the location details!

KALAMAZOO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

First Presbyterian Church is again partnering with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra to present a series of free classical concerts. The first program this season will feature the KSO Artists in Residence on Tuesday, October 29, at 7:00 p.m..

The casual, family-friendly concert will include works by Britten, Mendelssohn, and Mozart. Following the hour-long program, you are invited to meet and have conversation with the musicians at a reception hosted by the Worship and Music Committee.

This is one of many ways that our congregation connects with our community, and it is an excellent opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to experience wonderful music in our beautiful "Sanctuary in the City".

Parish Associates

The Reverend Dr. 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

MARTHA CIRCLE

Martha Circle is a group of women who meet once a month to support one another in our Christian faith. We share concerns and joys, study together, and explore what it means to be a Christian woman in today's world. We also provide cookies for Celebrate the Vision on our meeting day. Our regular meeting time is the second Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. in the Church Lounge, downstairs next to the Choir Room – September 11 and October 8.

We are continuing with the Presbyterian Women's Bible Study, *God's Promise: I am With You*. The focus of the study are those places in scripture where the words "I am (or will be) with you" are found, from Genesis through the Gospels, and how it speaks to particular circumstances – including our own. Each lesson is self-contained, so new participants are welcome to join at any time. September's lesson is "God with Us as Emmanuel" using scripture from Isaiah and Matthew. October's lesson, "God with Us as the Holy Spirit" comes from the Gospel of John.

All women are invited and will be warmly welcomed!

Contact Elaine Johns at 269-323-7395 or emjohns513@aol.com if you have any questions.

YOGA ~ WEDNESDAYS IN THE GATHERING PLACE

Basic Vinyasa (Noon-1:00 p.m.) Movement-oriented, spine friendly, breath and body. Must be able to transition from floor to standing fairly easily.

Chair Yoga (1:15-2:00 p.m.) Breathing, stretching, centering while safely seated.

Starts September 4. Mats, props, and chairs are provided.

Donation: \$5. Contact Jill Barnum to join, or if you have any questions, at jmbarnum68@gmail.com.

Outreach and Community Service

CELEBRATE THE VISION IS 11 YEARS OLD!

Celebrate the Vision, a ministry of faith, friendship, and food, has been serving our community for 11 years! We have grown in our understanding and commitment to those in Kalamazoo who are marginalized and often food-challenged. We have formed lasting relationships and friendships with the men, women, and children who come to share a home-cooked meal with us every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m..

Too many of our neighbors, there is comfort in knowing that they will be missed if they don't show up for dinner on Wednesday night. Others enjoy a weekly meeting with friends around a table to share their stories of joy and challenge.

We *Celebrate the Vision* that God gave Mike Hammond, Pat Stromsta, and Ray Wicks in September of 2008. We also offer our sincere thanks to all the volunteers who have served with us for 1 week or 10 years. We work side by side, knowing that God has called us to bring comfort and support, food, and clothing to the poor.

Join us on September 11, at 5:30 for a homecooked meal that you won't forget. We continue to be grateful for the support that our church and many individuals have given us over these 11 years.

CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

WMU Professor of Biology Dr. David Karowe will present "Two Possible Climate Futures for the Great Lakes Region (One Much Better than the Other)" on **Sunday, Sept. 29, at 11:30** in the Dining Room.

This 45-minute program promises to be very enlightening. Refreshments will be served. The program is free, open to the public, and is sponsored by the Green P's. See you there!

FPC EDISON PROJECT — HELP US CELEBRATE 20 YEARS!

This school year begins the 20th year of the FPC/Edison partnership. Members of this church have been supporting this mission in countless ways:

Tutoring children ~ Reading with children ~ Donating school supplies ~ Baking birthday treats ~ Providing snacks ~ Sewing book caddies ~ Bringing in pets to listen to readers ~ Going on field trips ~ Buying butter braids~ Monetary donations ...

As the new coordinators of this project, we are asking for your continued support in all those ways. We will be in the Gathering Place every Sunday in September so that you may sign up to tutor or bring monthly birthday treats. We are currently collecting school supplies and financial donations. We would like to continue to purchase a book for every child at Christmas.

Last but not least..... On Sunday, September 15, we will celebrate the Edison Project and the wonderful women who started it 20 years ago —Joyce Petro and Carol Payne Smith. Please join us at church and in the Gathering Place after the service to thank Joyce and Carol for their leadership and dedication to making a difference in hundreds of children's lives.

Sue Johnson ~ Donna Schonveld ~ Nancy Johnson

TIPS FROM GREEN PETE



GREEN P'S FALL PLANT EXCHANGE

Do you have plants that need new homes?
An overabundance of tomatoes or zucchini?
Hostas the size of wagon wheels? Dig them up,
divide them, and bring them to church!

Need a plant, take a plant. Have a plant, leave a plant.

September 23 and 30, and October 7
(outside the Lovell Street entrance)

WORLD MISSION CORNER

*An excerpt from a letter from our Mission Co-worker in West Africa, Josh Heikkila:

"Of Castles and Atrocities

"Built on the Gold Coast of Africa centuries ago, Elmina and Cape Coast Castles are stately white-washed fortresses with a history that needs to be remembered.....Originally built by European powers like Portugal, England, the Netherlands, and Denmark for the trading of goods like gold and ivory, dozens of castles on the Gold Coast ultimately came to be used for the trans-Atlantic slave trade.....The European traders then took the captives across the Atlantic, where they were sold into the slave economy. It was a commercial relationship that lasted on the Gold Coast for two full centuries.....

The castles can be a reminder that we need to remain vigilant, because if we don't, the human tendency to sinfulness will allow the poor and the vulnerable to be taken advantage of again and again.

Across West Africa, the Presbyterian Church (USA) is supporting church partners to improve the lives of their members and communities. Programs in education, health, agriculture, and development in places like rural Ghana and Niger are making better the lives of men, women, and children in the region. As well-being improves, individuals and communities are better prepared to address the societal forces that can degrade and dehumanize the people in their midst."

*Look for the entire letter from Josh in the Gathering Place!

WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?

- S** – Stewardship is the commitment of managing ourselves and our possessions in God's service.
- T** – "Time, Talents, and Treasures. Be a giver like a honeycomb, which just overflows with its own sweetness. That is how God gives to us, and it is how we should give in turn." – Anonymous
- E** – "Everything belongs to the Lord. Every generous act and every perfect gift is from above." James 1:17
- W** – "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Second Corinthians 9:6-7
- A** – Advance God's kingdom with the bounty he has entrusted to us.
- R** – "Riches and honor come from You, and You are the ruler of everything. Power and might are in Your hand, and it is in Your hand to make great and to give strength to all." – *1 Chronicles 29:12*
- D** – "Deliberate act of worship is giving back to God what He has so generously given to us. God will never let you hold a spiritual thing for yourself; it has to be given back to Him that He may make it a blessing to others." – Oswald Chambers
- S** – "Share your gifts for the Glory of God. Based on the gift each one has received, use it to serve others, as good managers of the varied grace of God." – *1 Peter 4:10*
- H** – "Honor the Lord with your possessions and with the ***first produce of your entire harvest.***" – *Proverbs 3:9*
- I** – "Invest with the Lord. The only investment I ever made which has paid consistently increasing dividends is the money I have given to the Lord." — James L. Kraft
- P** – Prayerfully consider how we can make God's blessings a priority in all that we do as a reflection of our living faith.

During this upcoming stewardship season, let us contemplate how we can be good stewards of God's creation and to gratefully administer the ministries and missions of First Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo.

Gratefully yours
Pam Tritsch

September - October Birthdays

SEPTEMBER

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Paul Minert
Jackson Matthews | 17 Cole Lewis
Joya Ruff |
| 3 Laura Boersma
Stan Clouse
Max Hubbard
Barb Kafil | 18 Lee Mizeur
Kay Vermeulen
Alex Wall Emerson |
| 4 Marianne Crawford
Louise McCallum
Sandra Western | 19 Anne Gladstone
Kevin Plemmons
Deborah Taylor |
| 5 Caroline Breisach
Charles Green
Diane Hunt | 20 Caroline Elliott
Vincent Iannelli
Kaylin Taylor
William Willoughby |
| 6 James Keckler
Timothy Tyler
Maya Van Heest
Deborah Wiebeck | 21 Helen Brady
Robert Brush
Cathy Cook
Linda Parks
John Todd |
| 8 Jan Bedrosian
Craig Oliver
Allison Myers
Annabelle Rigg
Kenny Sparks | 22 Susan Anthony
Derick Elliott |
| 9 Ginny Dell
Sue Forsch
Sue Potts | 23 Laura Schreiner |
| 10 Mary Kittredge
Greg Lozeau
Jim VanBuren | 24 Wilson Cheney
Char Hansen |
| 11 Carol Parfitt
Sandy Rozelle
Lindsey Walters | 25 Miranda Fiore |
| 12 Mardy Grant
Dawn Marciniak
Laurie Tupper | 26 Jane Hamilton |
| 13 Brenda Noel
Paul Schonveld
Faith Simpson | 27 Kevin Hollenbeck
Matthew Loughrin
Morgan Schut
Rick Taylor |
| 15 Beth McShane
Jim Mitchell
Mary Smyser | 28 Robert Britigan III |
| 16 Cameron Lozeau | 29 Marilyn Boal
Aedín Clements
Helen Ferrando |
| | 30 Elizabeth Dell
Gary Elfring |

OCTOBER

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Karen Cooper
Helen Creager
Sarah Leasure | 15 Jamie Schnur
Denny Stults |
| 2 Ryan Fouty
Ron Van Der Slik | 16 Katrina Kore |
| 3 Ann Fergemann | 17 Rob Case |
| 4 Hilary Cloetingh
Jennalie Shepherd
William Smyser
Dave Todd | 18 Judy Swisher |
| 5 Nevaeh Rogers
Mary Tyler
Nancy Wood | 19 Priscilla Blair
Nikos Diamond
Bruce Johnson
José Santamaría |
| 6 Gary Fergemann
Robert Tyler | 21 Bill Kelser
Sue Johnson |
| 7 Kay Burtis
Jordan Diamond
Isabelle Fisk
Elsie Johnson
Nancy Klesert | 22 Kathryn Novak
Sue Swartz |
| 8 Richard Hakken | 23 Ralph Jarl |
| 9 Marcia Cook | 24 Candice Parmley
Brian Hirt
Dave Hutton |
| 10 Steve Breisach
Martha Ford
Sylvie Graziano
Brenda McGruder
Neal Miedema
David Rozelle
Richard Steele | 25 Margo Light |
| 11 Heidi Egloff
Elizabeth Honeysett
Ruth Moser | 26 Ron Marvin
Eliza Mellis
Dave Novak |
| 12 Izaak Marciniak
Roger Sraatmeyer | 27 William Leasure |
| 13 Elaine Johns
Paisley Wall Emerson | 29 Susan Young |
| | 30 Norm Goodling
Susanne Rose |
| | 31 Barbara Camisa |

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) 425-5725

Kathleen Robertson King - (269) 808-3998

Chrissy Westbury - (989) 854-1124

Ann Ross - (269) 217-6193



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

Michael Montgomery

jared.montgomery@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

Shawn Smith

shawn.smith@kalamazoofirstpres.org

Ext. 213

Custodians (Ext. 213):

Randy Randt

Mike Riggle

South Lobby Receptionists (Ext. 221)

Bruce Birkel

Nik DeHaan

Nate Owens

In Memoriam

Nancy Owen was born on March 15, 1936, and joined FPC on December 30, 1965. Nancy died on June 28, 2019.

Tom Michelhaugh was born on December 15, 1934, and joined FPC on March 15, 1989. Tom died on July 23, 2019.

George Brooks was born on July 3, 1921, and joined FPC on April 14, 1960. George died on July 31, 2019.

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 bread is served at all communion services.

PRESBYTER PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

The deadline for content for the November-December issue of the *Presbyter* is October 14. It will be mailed on October 24.

The *Presbyter* is also available for viewing on the FPC website: sanctuaryinthecity.org. Many of our members receive the *Presbyter* via e-mail only, in order to help the church conserve paper and postage. To remove your name from the "paper-mail" list, contact Ann Johnson at 344-0119 or ann.johnson@kalamazoofirstpres.org.

Calendar – September, 2019

Sunday/1

- 9:00a Prayer Partners
- 9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal
- 9:15a Reading Aloud
- 9:45a Childcare
- 10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary,
Communion served
- 10:15a Church School
- 11:15a “Faithful Discourse in a
Fractured World”
- 12:45p Ministry with Community —
FPC serves the meal
- 7:00p Sunday Evening Worship

Monday/2 LABOR DAY

The church is closed in observance of the national holiday.

Tuesday/3

- 7:00a Presbyterian Men’s Group
- 10:00a FPC Archivists
- 11:00a Weekly Staff meeting
- 12:00p Bulletin deadline
- 2:00p Archivists
- 7:00p Worship and Music Committee

Wednesday/4

- 9:00a Hearts-to-Hands Card Ministry
- 12:00p Yoga
- 1:15p Chair Yoga
- 5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner

Thursday/5

- 9:30a Women’s Bible Study
- 11:00a FPC Librarian on site
- 7:00p FPC Choir Rehearsal

Friday/6

- 1:00p Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Saturday/7

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Sunday/8

- 9:00a C.E. Committee
- 9:00a Adult Choir rehearsal
- 9:00a Flower Exchange
- 9:15a Reading Aloud
- 9:45a Childcare
- 10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary
Communion served today
- 10:15a Church School
- 11:15a New Member Connection
- 11:15a Session Listening Post
- 11:15a Healing Service
- 12:00a Sabbatical Reflection
- 5:00p Revolution Youth Group

Monday/9

- 6:30p Deacons’ meeting

Tuesday/10

- 7:00a Presbyterian Men’s Group
- 10:00a FPC Archivists
- 11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting
- 12:00p Bulletin deadline
- 2:00p FPC Archivists

Wednesday/11

- 12:00p Yoga
- 1:15p Chair Yoga
- 3:00p Martha Circle
- 5:30p Men’s Monthly Wednesday
Evening Group (*off site*)
- 5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
- 7:30p Outreach Committee

Thursday/12

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

Friday/13

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Saturday/14

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Sunday/15

- 9:00a All-Church breakfast
- 9:00a Adult Choir rehearsal
- 9:00a Church School Teachers’ meeting
- 9:00a Congregational Life Committee
- 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 Revolution Youth Group
- 7:00p Sunday Evening Taizé Worship

Monday/16

- 6:00p Personnel Committee
- 6:30p Deacons meeting

Tuesday/17

- 7:00a Presbyterian Men’s Group
- 10:00a FPC Archivists
- 11:00a Weekly Staff meeting
- 12:00p Bulletin deadline
- 2:00p Archivists
- 6:00p Stewardship Committee
- 7:00p Worship and Music Committee

Wednesday/18

- 12:00p Communications Committee
- 12:00p Yoga
- 1:15p Chair Yoga
- 5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner

Thursday/19

- 9:30a Women’s Bible Study
- 11:00a FPC Librarian on site
- 6:00p Stewardship Committee
- 7:00p FPC Choir Rehearsal

Friday/20

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Saturday/21

- 6:00p Rickman House Bingo Night

Sunday/22

- 9:00a Adult Choir rehearsal
- 9:00a Plant exchange
- 9:15a Reading Aloud
- 9:45a Childcare
- 10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:45a Church School
- 11:15a Youth Sunday School
- 11:30a Antiracism class
- 5:00p Revolution Youth Group

Monday/23

- 7:00p Thoughtful Readers Book Group

Tuesday/24

- 7:00a Presbyterian Men’s Group
- 10:00a FPC Archivists
- 11:00a Weekly Staff meeting
- 12:00p Bulletin deadline
- 2:00p Archivists

Wednesday/25

- 12:00p Yoga
- 1:15p Chair Yoga
- 5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
- 6:30p Session meets

Thursday/26

- 9:30a Women’s Bible Study
- 11:00a FPC Librarian on site
- 7:00p FPC Choir Rehearsal

Friday/27

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Saturday/28

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Sunday/29

- 9:00a Adult Choir rehearsal
- 9:15a Reading Aloud
- 9:45a Childcare
- 10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:15a Church School
- 11:15a Youth Sunday School
- 11:15a Green P’s Guest Speaker
- 5:00p Revolution Youth Group

Monday/30

(no FPC activities scheduled)

PLEASE NOTE:

Community group meetings at FPC are not listed in the Presbyters because of space restrictions. Please see the weekly Announcements for these meetings.

Calendar – October, 2019

Tuesday/1

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
10:00a FPC Archivists
11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting
12:00p Bulletin deadline
2:00p FPC Archivists

Wednesday/2

9:00a Hearts-to-Hands Card Ministry
12:00p Yoga
1:15p Chair Yoga
5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner

Thursday/3

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

Friday/4

1:00p Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Saturday/5

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Sunday/6

9:00a Plant exchange
9:00a Prayer Partners
9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:45a Childcare
10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary
Communion served
10:15a Church School
11:15a Youth Sunday School
11:15a Blood Pressure Screenings
11:15a "Faithful Discourse in a Fractured World"
11:30a Antiracism class
12:45p Ministry with Community
(FPC serves the meal today)
4:00p Hayride
5:00p Revolution Youth Group
7:00p Sunday Evening Worship

Monday/7

1:00p Hearts-to-Hands Stitchers
7:00p Green P's

Tuesday/8

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
10:00a FPC Archivists
11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting
12:00p Bulletin deadline
2:00p FPC Archivists
7:00p Worship and Music Committee

Wednesday/9

12:00p Yoga
1:15p Chair Yoga
4:00p Martha Circle
5:30p Men's Monthly Wednesday Evening Group (off site)
5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
7:00p Outreach Committee

Thursday/10

9:30a Women's Bible Study
11:00a FPC Librarian on site
12:00p Finance Committee
6:00p Prop. Maintenance meeting
7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/11

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Saturday/12

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Sunday/13

9:00a Plant exchange
9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal
9:00a Christian Education meeting
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:30a Childcare
10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary
10:15a Church School
11:15a Session Listening Post
11:15a Youth Sunday School
11:15a Stewardship Potluck
11:15a Health Ministry meeting
11:15a Iona Pilgrimage meeting
11:30a Antiracism class
5:00p Revolution Youth Group

Monday/14

Presbyter—deadline for articles

1:00p Deacon Officers meeting

Tuesday/15

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
10:00a FPC Archivists
11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting
12:00p Bulletin deadline
2:00p FPC Archivists
6:00p Stewardship
7:00p Worship and Music Committee

Wednesday/16

12:00p Communications Committee
12:00p Yoga
1:15p Chair Yoga
4:00p Endowment Committee
5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner

Thursday/17

9:30a Women's Bible Study
11:00a FPC Librarian on site
6:00p Stewardship
7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

Friday/18

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Saturday/19

6:00p BINGO for Rickman House residents (off site)

Sunday/20

9:00a All-Church breakfast
9:00a Adult Choir rehearsal
9:00a Church School Teachers' Meeting
9:00a Congregational Life Committee
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:45a Childcare
10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary
10:15a Church School
11:30a Antiracism class
11:15a Youth Sunday School
11:15a Living Well Aware class
5:00p Revolution Youth Group
7:00p Sunday Evening Taizé Worship

Monday/21

5:30p Personnel Committee
6:30p Deacons meeting

Tuesday/22

7:00a Presbyterian Men's Group
10:00a FPC Archivists
11:00a Weekly Staff Meeting
12:00p Bulletin deadline
2:00p FPC Archivists

Wednesday/23

Presbyter folding/labeling/mailing
12:00p Yoga
1:15p Chair Yoga
5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner
6:30p Session meets

Thursday/24

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

Friday/25

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Saturday/26

(no FPC activities scheduled)

Sunday/27

9:00a FPC Choir rehearsal
9:15a Reading Aloud
9:30a Childcare
10:00a Worship in the Sanctuary
10:15a Church School
11:15a Youth Sunday School
11:30a Antiracism class
5:00p Revolution Youth Group

Monday/28

7:00p Thoughtful Readers Book Group

Tuesday/29

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

Wednesday/30

12:00p Yoga
1:15p Chair Yoga
5:30p Celebrate the Vision: dinner

Thursday/31

9:30a Women's Bible Study
11:00a FPC Librarian on site
6:00p Stewardship
7:00p FPC Choir rehearsal

LOOKING AHEAD:

November 28 and 29
THANKSGIVING
(Church building closed)