

A MINUTE IN MINISTRY

Tell Me a Story

Recently, Pastor Seth and I sat down with Session for a little while after church. This is an annual Rehearsal, in which we bring together the newly ordained and installed elders, along with the folks continuing in this role, for two purposes. There is always some training to be done – nuts and bolts information about how we do the work of the church – how to fill out a voucher, whom to talk to when you need to get something on the calendar, where to send monthly committee minutes – things of that nature.

But the real purpose of this gathering is to begin laying a foundation of relationship upon which we can build the work in the months ahead. Decision making is difficult work. Discerning God's voice amid the clamor of the world is difficult work. Collaboration can be difficult work. And the beauty and particular challenge of our Presbyterian way of doing things is that we can do nothing on our own. All of our work is collaborative. All of our decisions are made together – and whenever possible, by consensus. In order for that to be successful, relationships must be formed. We must learn to see one another as friends, siblings, teammates with a common goal. We may not agree on how to get to that goal, but we must recognize, in one another, the desire to get there together.

So, on this particular Sunday, we began with a question. What is something about you that most of the people in this group do not know? It doesn't have to be your deepest, darkest secret. It can even be something a little silly. What is something we simply don't know about you? The stories that arose – some silly, some serious, some fairly vulnerable – all revealed a little bit about each of us in the room. Something human, something relational, something that is a part of who we are and how we approach life.

Stories have a way of doing that. Of revealing pieces of who we are and what kinds of experiences, piled upon one another, formed us. Each of us comes to the table with stories, with experiences, with particular ways of understanding the world based on things that have happened to us in the past.

Our church, our congregation, has been formed by stories – individual stories and communal stories – shared and built upon since 1834. We have discerned God's call as a community through those stories, and we have come together to strive for common goals out of those stories. Just over three years ago, the Pine Island congregation made the choice to join their story with ours, and now we have more stories to build upon and to learn from. What are our stories? What are the stories we tell ourselves and what are the stories our community tells about us? And how do those stories reveal something about who we have been, who we are, and who God is calling us to be? In a time of great division, personal stories are a way to enter into challenging conversations from a place of grace. "Here's a little bit about what formed me that speaks to why I feel this way."

Stories take time to tell. Relationships, and foundations, take time to build. In a turbo-charged, fast-moving world of information and opinion, it can be a challenge to slow ourselves down and take time to share stories. That's what I would like to invite us to do, in this time. Let's slow down. Let's take the time to learn a little about one another, and about the stories of our church and our community. Look around. Find someone you don't know as well as you'd like, and say:

"Tell me a story."



*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*

CHURCH NEWS

FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

February 6
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 2:1-11

February 13
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 6:17-26

February 20
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
The Rev. Chrissy Westbury
Genesis 45:3-11; Luke 6:27-38

February 27
Transfiguration of the Lord
The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer
Luke 9:28-36; 2 Corinthians 3:17-4:6

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



CELEBRATE THE VISION (CTV) UPDATE

Celebrate the Vision has been going through some exciting changes in recent weeks. Our Wednesday evening meal, which we have provided for many years, continues to be strong as our community grows and strengthens. Pat Stromsta, Chrissy Westbury, and Meredith Alspach are working together, along with a powerhouse group of dedicated volunteers, to be sure we continue to develop ways to be in relationship with our neighbors. Every Wednesday, from 5-5:30 or so, we serve soup, sandwiches, fruit, and dessert (as well as the favorite hot chocolate and coffee!) to 20-30 folks from our neighborhood. If it is above freezing, we pull out tables and chairs and heat lamps for a comfortable place to enjoy the meal and visit with one another. If it's colder, we serve a take-out meal.

In January, we added a collaboration with the Peer Navigator program at the Recovery Institute. Every Wednesday, a peer navigator is present at CTV to talk with folks about what they are needing and to help point them toward community resources. The library has been working with Peer Navigators for several years, and this seemed like a good way to broaden that reach, and help our CTV friends, as well.

We are so grateful to all those who have stepped up to help make soup, serve meals, purchase fruit, water, paper products, and really lend a hand with whatever is needed. We've even been able to reach out in a collaborative spirit to First Presbyterian Church in Richland to invite them to be a part of our ministry with our neighbors. Members of FPC Richland have been providing soups and desserts once a month!

Many of us who work with CTV say that our Wednesday evenings are the highlight of our week. The relationships formed, the joy felt, the fun each Wednesday is energizing and exciting. It's good to see Christ's light in the world! If you want to be a part of the fun, come join us on a Wednesday, or let Meredith know if you would like to provide soup or dessert!

CHURCH NEWS (CONTINUED)

WELCOME RESETTLEMENT FAMILY!

At midnight on December 22, the family arrived in Kalamazoo from their former home, to re-settle in the Kalamazoo area.

The family is temporarily living in a home in Portage. Upon arriving, a team from our church, supported by Bethany Christian Services, began assisting the resettlement of this family to the United States.

The Refugee Resettlement Team at FPC is divided into six subcommittees: Education, Medical, Transportation, Grocery, Hospitality and Finances.

Speaking only Pashto, the family is very welcoming in spite of communication difficulties. They have begun ESL training in January, two to three times per week with Carol Parfit, JoAnn Yochim and Jan Carpenter. Additional classes will be provided through Kalamazoo Literacy Council. The children hope to begin school in the next few weeks.

Health visits at the Family Health Center are currently being scheduled for each family member. Transportation is being organized by Bev Murray and Odile Ndayishimiye. They are in the process of organizing volunteer drivers from our church and the wider community. Please contact Bev if you would like to help with this: bhmurray@charter.net

Dana Underwood and her team are coordinating grocery shopping twice a month, and deliveries from Loaves and Fishes on alternating weeks.

The family is also learning about Kalamazoo and living in the US through cultural orientation classes provided by Bethany. Donna and Paul have taken the family sledding. Everyone seemed to enjoy the outing. The mother laughed and talked at the top of the hill and seemed to enjoy it very much. Dad and the kids had so much fun going up and down the hill. The youngest child has a lot of energy and the parents and the two oldest children seem to want to engage the most at this time. They are very appreciative and attentive. Future outings are being planned.

We hope to be able to introduce you to this delightful family in the coming months. Until then, please keep the family in your prayers as they make this big transition!

Pat Stromsta and Wendy King (Co-chairs)

pat.stromsta@gmail.com jeffwendyking@gmail.com

Laura Boersma, Jan Carpenter, Aedín Clements, Evelyn Garner, Jeff King, Bev Murray, Odile Ndayishimiye, Sanny Nutter, Carol Parfitt, Donna and Paul Schonveld, Laurie Tupper, Dana Underwood, and JoAnn Yochim.

BETHANY CHRISTIAN SERVICES **IN SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN**

If you would like to directly donate supplies, money, or time to the Bethany Christian Services in our area, you may use the following contact information.

Phone: (269) 372-8800

Address: 6687 Seeco Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49009-5970

Help Afghan refugees



NEW STAFF MEMBERS

MICHAEL PALMER, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Dear Friends, Old and New!

I am humbled and honored to serve as your Interim Director of Music for the next weeks and months. I have known many of you for longer than we might care to admit, and I cannot wait to meet the new friends that continue to come through the FPC doors each day.

As many of you know, Cindy Hunter and I are close colleagues and friends. We continue to talk – almost daily – and I am committed to, and grateful for, the music and worship standard she set during her tenure here. Please know, as many challenges as there have been, this Ministry of Music is strong and vibrant. The dedication, gifts, and joy each person brings to this Ministry is stunning. It is my best hope you continue to feel the strength of God's Spirit singing through this congregation and its choirs.

During these first weeks of the New Year, I have been meeting with staff, members of the choirs, and members of the Worship & Music Committee. In each meeting I have asked, "How may I help you do your job better, easier, and faster?" Listening to their thoughts, ideas, and vision for ministry has offered me the opportunity to understand how I can be of best help during this interim time. Moreover, I look forward to your input, as well. Please feel free to contact me as I am always looking for a reason to share conversation over coffee.

As we travel this path together, thank you for your grace, trust and gentle welcome into this wonderful community of faith.

Wishing you peace and grace,

Michael Palmer



NEW ORGANIST

We are pleased to announce that we have hired an organist! Autumn (prefers to go by one name) will begin the week of February 7. Here's a brief introduction from her.

Hey, everyone! My name is Autumn, I'm an organist, and I'm delighted to have the opportunity to serve this congregation! I've been playing organ for almost five years, professionally for over two years. Currently, I'm playing at First Baptist Church right across the park. I have a deep love for music of all kinds, which I'm delighted to bring to this church. Aside from music, I enjoy playing video games, hanging out with friends, and spending time with my two cats, Bean and Weena. I can't wait to meet you all soon!

OFFICE STAFF

We have revised positions among our office staff. Louise Taylor (Financial Coordinator) and Hannah Foreman (Communications Coordinator) will fulfil expanded duties, complementing previous work. We posted a position description for Operations Coordinator at Indeed.com, OnePlace, our website and Facebook, with interviews to begin in early February. Each position will average 28 hours/wk.

This staff arrangement improves collaboration and support, aligning with our new office hours:

9 a.m.—3 p.m. Monday through Thursday

9 a.m.—1 p.m. Friday

While other activities will occur in our building beyond these hours, those periods will be best for connecting with office staff.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Below is a total list of all the public church events in February (excluding meetings and regular church services). If you would like any more information on any of these events, please visit the church calendar or event page on the church website.

<http://kzoofirstpres.org/calendar>

<http://kzoofirstpres.org/upcoming-events>

Date	Start Time	Location	Event
Tuesday, February 1	7:00 a.m.	Church Achieves	Men's Fellowship
	12:00 p.m.	Church Library	Adult Ed—Sermon on the Mount
	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary	KSO FREE Concert
Wednesday, February 2	5:00 p.m.	Outside the Church	Celebrate the Vision
	7:00 p.m.	TBD (Contact Chrissy)	Adult Ed—W.O.W.
February 3, Thursday	5:30 p.m.	Room 116	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	The Gathering Place	Adult Choir Rehearsal
February 6, Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Room 301	Prayer Partners
	9:00 a.m.	The Gathering Place	Adult Choir Rehearsal
	After Worship	Room 301	Adult Ed— Say More?
	4:00 p.m.	Kalamazoo FPC	7-12th Grade Youth Group
	5:00 p.m.	Kalamazoo FPC	Kalamazoo FPC
February 8, Tuesday	7:00 a.m.	Church Achieves	Men's Fellowship
	12:00 p.m.	Church Library	Adult Ed—Sermon on the Mount
February 9, Wednesday	3:00 p.m.	The Gathering Place	Martha Circle
	5:00 p.m.	Outside the Church	Celebrate the Vision
February 10, Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Room 314	Women's Bible Study
	5:30 p.m.	Room 116	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	The Gathering Place	Adult Choir Rehearsal
February 13, Sunday	After Worship	Room 301	Adult Ed— Say More?
	9:00 a.m.	The Gathering Place	Adult Choir Rehearsal
February 15, Tuesday	7:00 a.m.	Church Achieves	Men's Fellowship
	12:00 p.m.	Church Library	Adult Ed—Sermon on the Mount
February 16, Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	Outside the Church	Celebrate the Vision
February 17, Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Room 314	Women's Bible Study
	5:30 p.m.	Room 116	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	The Gathering Place	Adult Choir Rehearsal

CHURCH CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

Date	Start Time	Location	Event
February 20, Sunday	9:00 a.m.	The Gathering Place	Adult Choir Rehearsal
	After Worship	Room 301	Adult Ed—Say More?
	Noon	Fellowship Hall	Chili Cook-Off!
	4:00 p.m.	Kalamazoo FPC	4-6th Grade Youth Group
	5:00 p.m.	Kalamazoo FPC	7-12th Grade Youth Group
	6:00 p.m.	Via Zoom (Contact Laura Ford)	Holistic Health Promotion Class
February 22, Tuesday	7:00 a.m.	Church Achieves	Men's Fellowship
	Noon	Church Library	Adult Ed—Sermon on the Mount
February 23, Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	Outside the Church	Celebrate the Vision
February 24, Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Room 314	Women's Bible Study
	5:30 p.m.	Room 116	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	The Gathering Place	Adult Choir Rehearsal
February 27, Sunday	9:00 a.m.	The Gathering Place	Adult Choir Rehearsal
	2:00 p.m.	Center Stage Theater	7-12th Grade Youth Group



Reconnecting for bowling and pizza with our Young Adult group— December, 2021

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

FPC'S ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF IS FEBRUARY 20!

The culinary masters of our congregation invite you to warm up this winter with the heat of competition!

We have two options for participating in our hybrid Cook-off this year. Following Worship on February 20, you are welcome to visit the socially-distanced tables in the guild room and choose your chili-to-go. In addition, curbside pick-up will be available for anyone who is worshipping from home.

Instructions for how to vote for your favorite chili will be included with your to-go box. We may be socially distanced, but the competition will be close!

All proceeds from the Cook-off generously support our "One Great Hour of Sharing" offering. The suggested donation is \$5 per person, and larger donations are gratefully accepted.

Tickets will be available for purchase on February 13, as well as on the day of the competition. May the best chili win!



FREE KALAMAZOO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT

The KSO Artists in Residence will be back for a FREE performance at FPC on February 1 at 7:00 p.m. Masks and proof of vaccination will be required for attendance for everyone, no matter the age. The program is as follows:

AGÓCS Imprimatur (String Quartet No. 2)

ALBRECHTSBERGER Concerto for Alto Trombone and Strings in Bb Major

BRAHMS Clarinet Quintet in B minor, Op. 115

Julia Neckermann, violin

Lisa A. Williams, violin

Nicholas Jeffery, viola

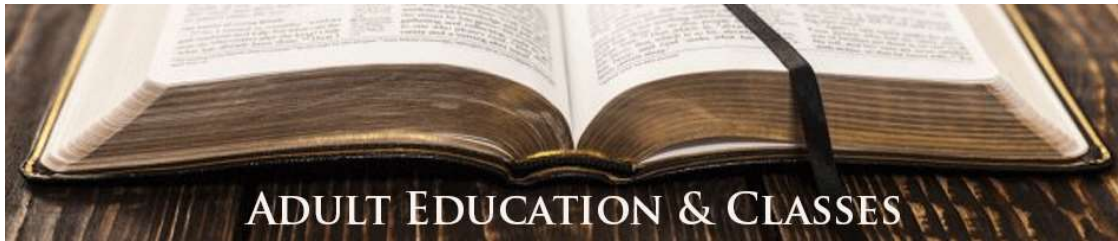
Igor Cetkovic, cello

Georgiy Borisov, clarinet

Georgiy Borisov, clarinet

Edward "Kip" Hickman, trombone





FPC offers a number of education and fellowship opportunities for adults! Find a time that works for you or a connection you want to make and reach out. We'd love to have you join us! If there is a small group for education or fellowship that you would like to start, reach out to Pastor Chrissy. She's happy to help support new ideas!

	Usual Location	Contact	Time
Sunday			
Prayer Partners	Room 301	Pat Stromsta	February 6 9:00 a.m.
Reading Aloud	Zoom	Kim Cummings	Contact Kim for more Information
Say More?	Room 301	Chrissy Westbury Seth Weeldreyer	February 6, 13, 20, 27 After worship
Monday			
Thoughtful Readers	Room 300	Bev Murray and Donna Schonveld	KPL Read - <i>The Best We Could Do: An Illustrated Memoir</i> by Thi Bui
Tuesday			
Men's Fellowship	Archives	Bill Sorenson	Every Tuesday 7:00 a.m.
<i>Sermon on the Mount</i> by Amy- Jill Levine—Tuesday Noon Study	Library	Seth Weeldreyer	Every Tuesday Noon
Wisdom in One Word (W.O.W)	Various locations	Sue Caulfield or Chrissy Westbury	February 2 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday			
Noon Prayer Service	Sanctuary	Seth Weeldreyer	Every Wednesday Noon
Martha Circle	Gathering Place	Elaine Johns	February 9 3:00 p.m.
Celebrate the Vision - Faith in Rehearsal, serving a meal to our neighbors in need.	South Street Entrance	Chrissy Westbury Meredith Alspach	Every Wednesday 5:00 p.m.
Thursday			
Women's Bible Study	Room 314	Chrissy Westbury Pat Stromsta	Feb 3: The Minor Prophets Feb 10 - March 3: Prayer 9:30 a.m.

NEW CLASSES AND STUDIES

HEALTH MINISTRY COMMITTEE 2022 HOLISTIC HEALTH PROMOTION CLASS

The Health Ministry team at First Presbyterian Church is sponsoring an Education and Outreach Effort through a virtual class/small group meeting. Our objective is to meet monthly (every third Sunday at 6:00 p.m.) in a virtual format to discuss promoting holistic health (physical, mental, and spiritual well-being). The general format of the class will be to log in (a Zoom link) and listen to a group speaker for a few minutes, then take some time to share and pose questions, talk about what is happening in the community and in our lives, and to maintain connection to support our wellbeing. Class registration is open to all who request it.

Our February topic will be **Compassion**. It is scheduled for Sunday, February 20, at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom link. Register by email to Laura Ford to receive the Zoom link invitation! **Lauraford57@att.net**

Compassion motivates people to go out of their way to help the physical, mental, or emotional pains of another or of themselves. Compassion is a feeling of kindness and care for another. (Wikipedia) What does this word mean to you? How can we increase the level of compassion in our community and our world?



MARTHA CIRCLE

Martha Circle will meet in the Gathering Place at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 9. We meet for fellowship and study, and to support one another in our lives as Christian women.

In January we began the study of “What My Grandmother Taught Me”, and learned about the importance of family ties in Biblical times. In February we will dig into the story of Tamar, the first woman listed in Matthew’s genealogy of Jesus.

Tamar is a powerless but resourceful outsider who finds away to teach Judah, the family patriarch, a strong lesson resulting in the continuation of the family line that leads to David and Jesus.

You are invited to join us for an interesting discussion!

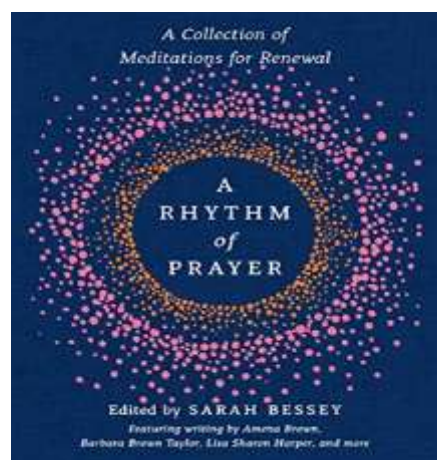
For more information, contact Elaine Johns at **emjohns513@aol.com** or **269-323-7395**.

A RHYTHM OF PRAYER: NEW WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY CLASS

This 4-week class begins on February 10. We meet in Room 314 at 9:30 a.m. for coffee. Our class begins at 9:45 a.m.

The class will be based on the book, *A Rhythm of Prayer*, edited by Sarah Bessey. Books are optional, but they provide a rich collection of prayers from women around the world that encourages us and reminds us of the invitation and gift of prayer.

Pat Stromsta will facilitate this class.



CONTINUING CLASSES AND STUDIES

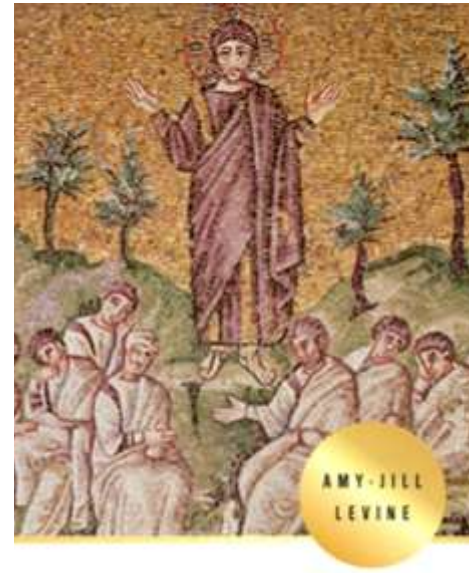
SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Tuesdays through February 22 at noon, meeting in the Library

Due to unforeseen difficulty in acquiring the previous book, Pastor Seth Weeldreyer has altered plans for our next group reflection. We will explore Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, centering on Amy-Jill Levine's book, *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven*. You can find this book through your favorite local bookstore or at Amazon. Levine writes, "The Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7, contains some of Jesus' most profound and most memorable teachings. What might these teachings have meant to his disciples, and to the others who first heard them? How, if we pay careful attention to his words, does Jesus provide us a road map to living as God would have us live?" Here's a schedule for our discussion:

- February 1 Chapter 3: Practicing Piety
- February 8 Chapter 4: Our Father
- February 15 Chapter 5: Finding Your Treasure
- February 22 Chapter 6: Living into the Kingdom

We will return to John Bell's book, *Living with the Psalms*, for the season of Lent. Pastor Seth will order a copy of the book for anyone interested. Let him know if you'd like one!



SERMON *on*
the MOUNT

WOW

February 2, 7:00 p.m.

This small group meets monthly at members' homes at 7:00 on the first Wednesday evening of the month. Each month we take a word with us to reflect on all month long. When we gather, each of us brings something that word brought up for us during the month. It might be a scripture, a poem, a story, a piece of art or music — anything to help us reflect on where God spoke to us through that word throughout the month. We welcome new members! Contact Sue Caulfield or Chrissy Westbury for more information.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: THE MINOR PROPHETS

February 3 at 9:30

Pastor Chrissy will be finishing the Women's Bible Study in a study of the Minor Prophets. The 12 minor prophets (Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi) are called minor, not because they are of less importance, but because they are shorter books. We listen to what they had to say in their context and thinking about what it means for us in ours. We'll also delve into the funniest book in the Bible and have a bit of fun with that!

SAY MORE?

February 6, 13, 20, 27 after Worship in room 301

We will be trying out a new adult class, after worship on January 23 and 30. "Say More?" is an opportunity to gather and reflect on the scripture passages shared in worship and on the sermon – to ask questions and delve a little deeper into the scriptures we read each week. Contact Pastor Chrissy for more information.

YOUTH & FAMILIES

YOUTH GROUP

**Youth Group is meeting in-person:
for all 7th-12th grade students!**

All meeting dates are subject to change as we keep safety and health of all at the forefront of our planning. The most up-to-date information will be sent directly to parents via email.

February 6 – 5-7:00 p.m. @ FPC Kzoo

February 13 – NO Youth Group

February 20 – During Chili Cook-off
@ FPC Kzoo, 11:30-1:30

February 27 – 2:00 p.m. @ Center Stage

Theater to see Chrissy in Sister Act

March 6 – 5-7:00 p.m. @ FPC Kzoo

March 13 – 5-7:00 p.m. @ Richland

March 20 – Game Night Fundraiser

@ FPC Kzoo, 3-7:00 p.m.

March 27-April 3 – NO Youth Group

LOVINGKINDNESS

CAN YOU HELP?

Each week that we host Youth Group, we serve dinner to the kids. It is a huge help to have someone provide and serve the meal so that the youth team can be fully present with the group and not in the kitchen. If you can help with the meal one week, or if you'd like more information, please contact Meredith!



Have you heard about the NEW group for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders?

This group will be very similar to our Youth Group, combining kids from the area Presbyterian churches.

February 6 – 4-5:00 p.m. @ FPC Kzoo

February 20 – 4-5:00 p.m. @ FPC Kzoo

March 6 – 4-5:00 p.m. @ FPC Kzoo

March 20 – 4-6:00 p.m. @ FPC Kzoo –

Youth Mission Game Night Fundraiser.

We encourage families to join us from 4-6:00 p.m. for this fun event!

To be added to the email list for this group, please contact Meredith:

meredith.alspach@kalamazoofirstpres.org



ATTENTION SENIORS~ IT'S SCHOLARSHIP TIME!

If you or your family have been active in the spiritual and community life of FPC Kalamazoo and you are expecting to continue your education beyond high school, check out the scholarship info on page 12.

Scholarship applications are due March 15.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Sunday School is happening
in-person for preschool –
5th grade**

- ❖ Nursery will be open for children age 2 and under
- ❖ School-aged children will meet on the 3rd floor
- ❖ Families are invited to enjoy the Prayground together on communion Sundays



YOUTH AND FAMILY NEWS

IT'S SCHOLARSHIP TIME!

There are several endowments that have been established at the First Presbyterian Church, with portions designated to be utilized for scholarships and/or grants.

You are considered eligible to apply for a scholarship if you or your family have been active in the spiritual and community life of FPC Kalamazoo.

Individuals who are expecting to continue their education beyond high school OR those who are already students beyond the high school level may apply.

Scholarship applications are due March 15

Use this link to find the scholarship guidelines:

<http://kzoofirstpres.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/First-Presbyterian-Church-Kalamazoo-SCHOLARSHIP-GUIDELINES.docx>

Use this link to download the scholarship application:

<http://kzoofirstpres.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/First-Presbyterian-Church-Kalamazoo-SCHOLARSHIP-APPLICATION.docx>

Good luck!

YOUTH MISSION FUNDRAISER

**THE YOUTH ARE HEADING BACK TO
WEST VIRGINIA JUNE 25–JULY 2!**

LOOK for our Butter Braid fundraiser in early March!

AND

SAVE THE DATE!

**GAME NIGHT & SILENT AUCTION
MARCH 20**

Details to follow!

** If you have an item or service to donate for the Silent Auction,
please contact Meredith: meredith.alspach@kalamazoofirstpres.org*



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Bonnie Ayotte Andrew Bol Diane Heckler John Munn	2 Robert Aspergren Caroline Ham Carol McCloud Ryan Smith Pat Stromsta Gabriel Takuh	3 Deb Droppers Lois Heuchert Vincent Larkin Karen Trout	4 Shelly Denny	5 Amy Dark Bell Evelyn Hay
6 Maya King Becho Bassam Harik Grace Novak	7 Paul Clements Carrie Palmer Carole Stoddard	8	9 Katherine Kremer	10 Keenan Millar Jennifer Newman Bob Poel	11 Clare Miedema Pam Obed Al Parfitt	12 Larry Braak
13	14	15 Valerie Burke Justin Hassler Randy Randt	16 Grady Coon	17	18 Robert Marciniak	19 Heather Kortlandt Meredith Novak
20 Emmit Newman	21 Silas Conrad Anna Gleaton Alexandria Jonas George Kremer	22 Gary DeBruin Zachary Lewis	23 Carlos Becho James Steele	24 Gary Dukes	25 Andrew Santamaria Grace Santamaria Joseph Santamaria Michael Sherrill	26 David Jarl Karen Meldrum
27 Jean Appel Deb Bender Janine Loughrin Richard Nellums Marion Palmer	28					



Is there someone you would like to add to our birthday calendars? If so, contact our Communications Coordinator:

hannah.foreman@kalamazoofirstpres.org or (269) 344-0110 ex. 209

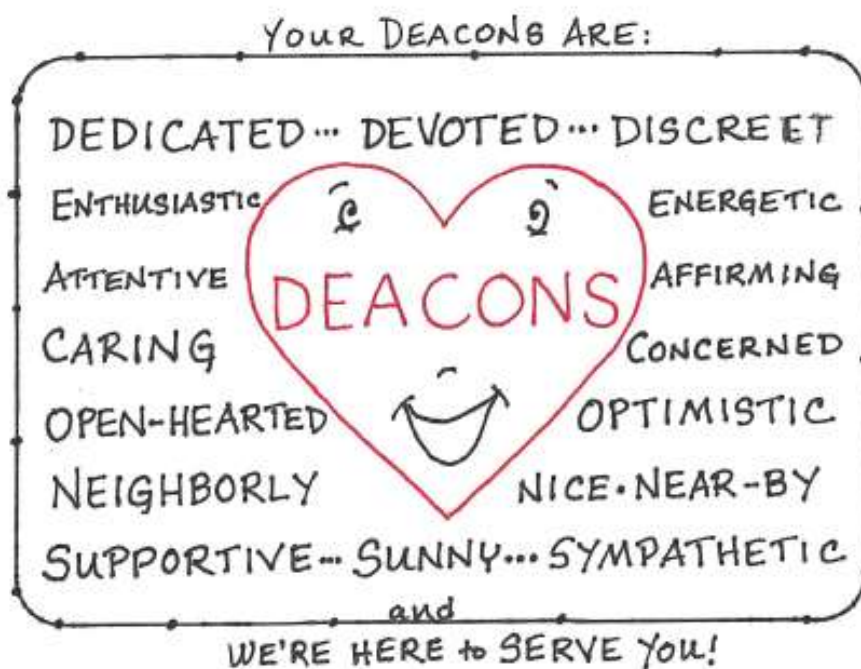
DEACONS AND THE SESSION

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

During Worship on January 16, we celebrated the ordination and installation of these new officers.

Deacons — Aedín Clements, John Fiore, Nancy Johnson, Karen Nellums, Jo Russell, and Rick Taylor

Elders — Heather Cloetingh, Becky Demcovitz, Cynthia Feucht, Mark Loehrke, Mark Ohrstrom, Pat Stromsta, and Scott Wilson.



DEACONS

Class of 2022

Evelyn Garner
Wendy King
Louise
McCallum
Carol Parfitt
Deb Weurding
JoAnn Yochim

Class of 2023

Jan Carpenter
Hillary Cloetingh
Paul Minert
Suzanne
Weeldreyer
Diane White
Jim Young

Class of 2024

Aedín Clements
Karen Nellums
Jo Russell
John Fiore
Nancy Johnson
Rick Taylor

SESSION

Clerk of Session: Allison Hammond

Youth Elder: Annalise Bol

Class of 2022

Jill Barnum
Bob Brush
Richard Coryell
Ellen Dykhuis
Kathy Jennings
Don Meldrum
Heather Misner

Class of 2023

Laura Ford
Susan Agostinelli
Kathy Cooney
Craig Kortlandt
Deb Taylor
Janet Todd
Oliver Takuh

Class of 2024

Becky Demcovitz
Cynthia Feucht
Mark Loehrke
Mark Ohrstrom
Pat Stromsta
Heather Cloetingh
Scott Wilson

Assistance for Worshippers

Hearing Assistance Devices for in-person 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 for in-person Worship. 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 Hannah Foreman at 344-0119 ex. 209 and ask that your e-mail address be added to the list.

DVD's can be created for those with limited access to our services. You may call 344-0119 to place an order.

Gluten-free bread is served at all communion services.

Presbyter

Our congregation publishes the *Presbyter* on a monthly basis, with the exception of bi-monthly issues in the summer and during the Christmas season. While this may change with the complications of planning in our country's situation, here is the *tentative* schedule for the balance of the 2021 program year:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline for Content</u>	<u>Mailing Date</u>
March	February 14	February 23
April	March 21	March 30
May	April 18	April 27

Many members receive the *Presbyter* newsletter via e-mail only, to help conserve paper and other resources. If you would like to have your name removed from the USPS mailing list, please contact us.

FPC Parish Associates

FPC Parish Associates:

The Reverend Liz Candido, ecandido@kzoo.edu
The Reverend Amber Nettleton, amber.nettleton@gmail.com

FPC Parish Associate and United Campus Ministry Pastor

The Reverend Kathleen Robertson King, ucmkrking@yahoo.com

How Can I Join the Email List?

Sign up for announcements and links to online Worship; it's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Go to the FPC website (kzoofirstpres.org) and scroll to the bottom of the page.
2. There is a short form to complete (email address, first name, and last name).
3. When it is completed, just hit "subscribe" and your name will be added to our email list.

Emails containing announcements are generally sent on Thursday afternoons. If you haven't received it by Friday afternoon, please look in your "junk".



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

Associate for Youth and Families

Meredith Alspach

meredith.alspach@kalamazoofirstpres.org
Ext. 205

Communications Coordinator

Hannah Foreman

hannah.foreman@kalamazoofirstpres.org
Ext. 209

Financial Coordinator

Louise Taylor

louise.taylor@kalamazoofirstpres.org
Ext. 206

Interim Director of Music

Michael Palmer

Michael-palmer1@att.net

Building Superintendent

Shawn Smith

shawn.smith@kalamazoofirstpres.org
Ext. 213

Custodian (Ext. 213):

Randy Randt

Logan McCafferty

South Lobby Receptionists (Ext. 221)

Bruce Birkel

Deb Weurding

Sandy Sinotte

In Memoriam

Richard Bryce
Dayton Maynard
James Welch

Dayton Maynard's memorial was held on January 20. The memorial recording will be available online until February 20.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q_SNQpyBiqg



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Kalamazoo, Michigan
Permit No. 446

AFFIX MAILING
LABEL HERE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

—PRESBYTER HIGHLIGHTS—

- ◇ FPC SESSION MEMBERS AND DEACONS
- ◇ NEW CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES FOR ADULTS

