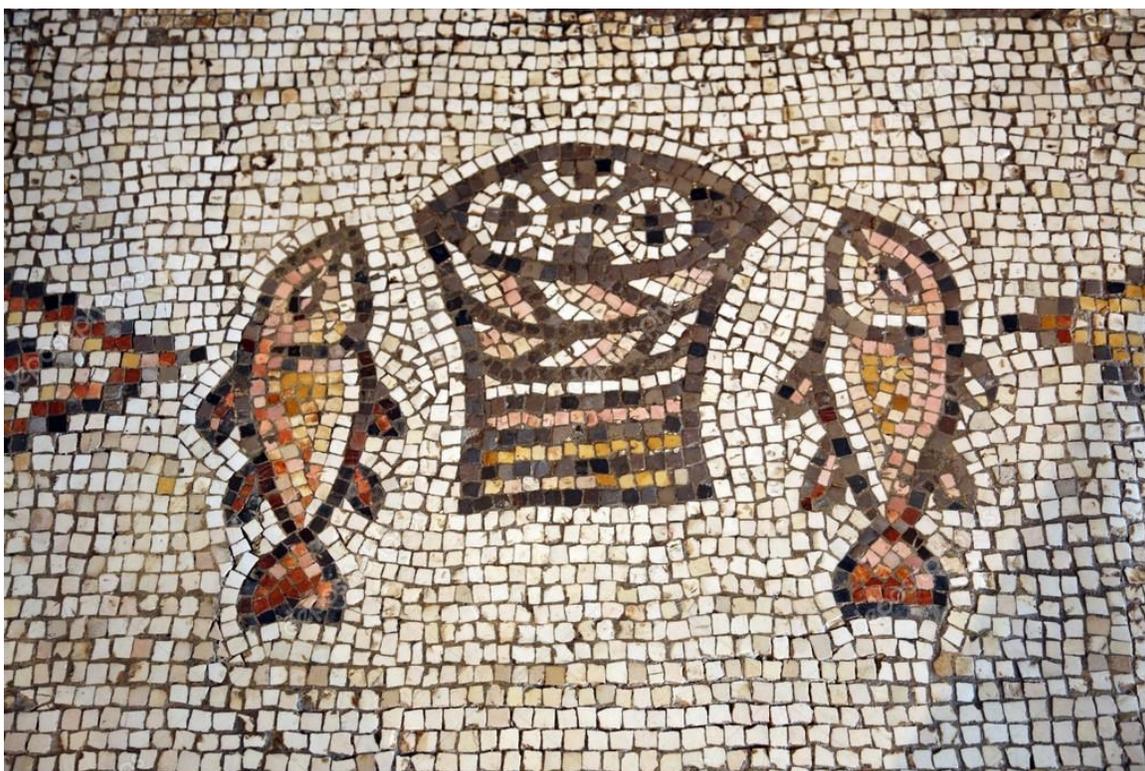


 KALAMAZOO  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



Ancient church mosaic in Tabgha, Sea of Galilee, Israel

“Peter Reinhart is a venerated figure in the world of pizza. He’s authored more than a dozen books ... and he maintains an active pizza-obsessed blog. As a younger man, he lived in a semi-monastic Christian community that grew out of the counterculture of the 1960s. ‘For us, religion was a way to experience divinity,’ he says. ... Now, Reinhart believes that spirituality can be found in striving for greatness and bringing people joy, even through pizza. ‘For me, the word religion at its root comes from the Latin word *religio*, which he reads as meaning to be connected to something greater than oneself.’”

~ Neda Ulaby, *National Public Radio*, April 25, 2022

MAY 1, 2022

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

## THE GATHERING

*Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here—with whatever joys, questions,  
or tears you bring today—as we worship God, who welcomes us all!  
You are invited to listen for God's Spirit speaking to you through the music of the Prelude,  
as we prepare our hearts for worship.*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.  
Let us worship God.

### PRELUDE

*Upon Thy Table, Lord*

Dale Wood

### \*DOXOLOGY (tune #607)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

### \* OPENING RESPONSES

In this sacred space, for generations, God has surprised, embraced, inspired, encouraged.  
**God makes this time a holy gathering, a place of grace, where we receive good news.**  
God invites us to come and follow Jesus—we who've committed already or do so anew.  
**We're here to feel the Spirit, envision God's future, and share in resurrection power!**

### \* HYMN #233

*The Day of Resurrection*

Lancashire

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving and Merciful God, too often we don't fulfill Jesus' way of grace in our world.  
For desires and deeds tainted by selfishness and words more caustic than kind;  
for false gods who get our devotion and true selves we starve of love, God, forgive us.  
For hurts we hold too tightly, promises we fail to keep, and complicity we share;  
for careless use of time or resources and lame excuses for insensitivity, God, forgive us.  
For all we can become—all you imagine and inspire—God, renew and prepare us.**  
*Prayer continues in silence*

### SUNG RESPONSE

*Behold, Behold*

**Behold, behold, I make all things new, beginning with you, and starting from today.  
Behold, behold, I make all things new, my promise is true, for I am Christ, The Way.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*from A Brief Statement of Faith*

Friends, trust in God, who raised Jesus, breaking the power of sin and evil. God's Spirit  
frees us to accept ourselves, and to love God and neighbor. Binding us together as the  
body of the Risen Christ in the covenant of love we inherit, God remains faithful still.

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.**

The same Spirit who inspired prophets and apostles feeds us with the bread of life. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to witness among all people as we work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. May the peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

*Please stand and take a moment to share Christ's peace with others, respecting personal need for distance and levels of comfort.*

\* GLORIA #583

*Glory to God*

Gloria (Taizé)

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis deo!**

**Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!**

## THE WORD

### MOMENT WITH YOUNG WORSHIPPERS

CHILDREN'S BLESSING #409, V 3 *God Is Here!*

Abbot's Leigh

**Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;**

**Here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.**

**Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore**

**What it means in daily living to believe and to adore.**

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**God of all who wonder, question, and believe, by the gift of your Spirit open our eyes and ears, and soften our hearts in the hearing of your Word.**

**So may we abide in your peace and abound with inspiration for new life,**

**as we bear the fruit of your Love for all people, in the risen Christ. Amen.**

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 65:17-25

Old Testament, p. 696

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God**

### ANTHEM

*Ave Verum Corpus*

W.A. Mozart

*Ave, verum corpus  
natum de Maria Virgine,  
Vere passum immolatum  
in Cruce pro homine,  
Cujus latus perforatum  
unda fluxit et sanguine,  
Esto nobis praegustatum  
in mortis examine.*

Hail, true body  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
Who truly suffered, sacrificed  
on the Cross for humanity,  
Whose pierced side overflowed  
with water and blood,  
Be for us a foretaste  
in the test of death.





Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the  
 high - est. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the  
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Now, lest we believe our praise alone fulfills your purpose ... may we be changed into your fullness, loving and caring in the world, serving the One who taught all who would follow him to live and to pray together :

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and forever. Amen.**

## COMMUNION

*To receive the elements: beginning with the front rows, please come forward by the center aisle and return to your seat by a side aisle. Approach the ministers with your hands cupped to receive the bread (all is gluten-free). Then pick up your cup and return to your seat. Upon receiving the Sacrament, you may wish to respond by saying, "Amen". If you prefer to remain seated and receive the elements, please raise your hand, and communion will be served to you in your pew.*

## COMMUNION MUSIC

### THE SENDING

\* HYMN #298                      *Lord, You Give the Great Commission*                      Abbot's Leigh

\* BENEDICTION (*Our congregational response is "Alleluia! Amen!"*)

POSTLUDE                                      *Pedal-Exercitium*                                      J.S. Bach

## PARTICIPANTS

### **Worship Leaders**

The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer  
The Rev. Chrissy Westbury  
Meredith Alspach

### **Acolyte**

Susan Caulfield

### **Reader**

Laurie Tupper

### **Greeters**

Minnie LaPoint

### **Sound**

Sound Team members

### **Music**

Adult Choir

Carl Witt, Director

Autumn, Organist

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

This week the children are invited to stay in Worship for communion Sunday, and families are welcome to sit together in the Prayground area. The nursery will be open for any children under age three.

### YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group meets today at the Richland Church from 5-7:00 p.m. All 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome!

### WEDNESDAY NOON PRAYER

... continues! Join us in the Sanctuary for Worship.

### REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

#### TEAM MEETING

The Refugee Resettlement Team will meet in Room 301 every Sunday after Worship.

### CROP HUNGER WALK HELP!

Even though the weather canceled the “Walk”, the need for donations continues. You can support Church World Service (CWS) in their work in providing nutrition to babies so they can develop properly, helping families develop gardens and farms to feed themselves and add to their finances, and to assist during disasters/refugee resettlements. Invest in our neighbors locally and around the world. Cash and checks made out to “CWS” will be accepted in the Gathering Place before or after Worship on Sunday. Online gifts can be made at: <https://tinyurl.com/2p94zdr7> Go to Teams, Kalamazoo First Presbyterian Church, to contribute to “our team”.



**Thank you for your support!!**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHILDREN'S PRAYGROUND

#### Philosophy of a Prayground

- ◆ We feel it's important for children to be a part of worship so that Worship can become a part of their heart language
- ◆ We know children don't always hear best when they're sitting still all the time
- ◆ The intent is to give parents a tool to worship with their children in a way that makes it easier for families

#### Ways to use the Prayground

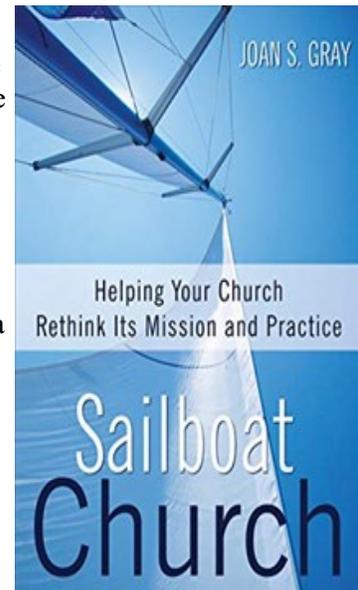
- ◆ Families can sit together in the West Transept
- ◆ Children can take a movement or stretching break during worship, taking advantage of the various activities available to help quiet their bodies while listening
- ◆ ***The Prayground is not staffed - Please do not leave children unattended***



### NEW: WOMEN'S THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:

#### SAILBOAT CHURCH.

For the early Christians, the church was a God-powered, God-led, God-resourced adventure. They depended on the Spirit to provide what was needed to do God's work. The gifts and resources of the Holy Spirit that were promised to the first Christians following Jesus' resurrection are still available to the church and to those who wish to serve God. God is still "able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to the power that is at work within us. (Ephesians. 3:20) You are invited to be part of this God-powered, God-led, God-resourced adventure. We will read and discuss Joan S. Gray's book, "Sailboat Church". This is a four-week class that meets on Thursday mornings, beginning April 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 (coffee) and 9:45 (discussion and prayer) in Room 314 . Pat Stromsta will facilitate this class. Books, which include 40 days of prayers, quotations from Scripture, and brief reflection questions are recommended, but not necessary.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COVID UPDATE

We continue to follow CDC guidelines, informed by low community spread and rate of hospitalization in our area. That said, we know of a couple of people who have worshipped with us recently and tested positive immediately thereafter. Their symptoms are not severe—in line with the current variant and vaccination. As we encourage each person to make a wise decision, here are current guidelines:

- Masks are always welcome among us (though not mandated)—it remains a leading way to prevent infection. By consensus of participants, the choir will continue singing with masks.
- If you are at a high risk for severe illness, consult a healthcare provider about your need to wear a mask, and other precautions.
- Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines and get tested if you have symptoms.
- People with symptoms or a positive test should follow CDC guidelines for self-isolation.

As ever, please respect those whose circumstances and choices may differ from your own.

### DEACONS' PRAYERS

One of the great gifts of a community of faith is that we take time and intention to pray for one another. This week, we pray for JoAnn Yochim and the parish group listed below, that they may feel God's presence and power in their lives. Next week, we'll pray for another Deacon and parish group.

Jane Beers  
Sally Bristol  
Alan and Sarah Chase  
Wayne Conner  
Kurt, Deborah, Jacob, Host, and Joey Droppers  
Hunter Fisk  
Martha Ford  
Karen, William, and Justin Hassler  
Joyce Lander  
Donald and Carol McCloud  
Martha Meinzinger  
Morgan and Jacob Schut  
Shar Schut  
Kevin, Dianne, Samantha, and Cameron Shaffer

James Stefl  
Christopher, Elizabeth, and Claire Honeysett  
Ronald and Elaine Johns  
Marilyn Walker  
Diane White  
Richard and Joanne Steward  
Taren Trout  
Timothy, Robert, Julie, and Justin Tyler

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRAYER: WHY PRAY?

### WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE PRAY?

### HOW DO I PRAY?

**Sundays, May 1, 8, 15, and 29,  
after Worship in Room 300  
with Pastor Chrissy**

Prayer is something Christians believe is important: morning prayers, dinner prayers, bedtime prayers, and of course, prayer in public worship, are all important. Still, we often have questions about prayer. Why do Christians pray? If God knows what we need, why should we ask? How should we pray? What is the power of prayer? Perhaps you wonder if your prayer requests are for the right things. What should Christians pray for if a friend is terminally ill? A healing prayer? A miracle? Can we pray for a salary raise or for our favorite sports team to win? Is this what prayer is for? Are our concerns God's concerns?



In this class, we will look at different views Christians have about prayer. We will study Christian prayer from a Biblical perspective, using the book of Psalms and other passages, and from a historical Christian perspective. Handouts will be provided to participants by Pastor Chrissy.

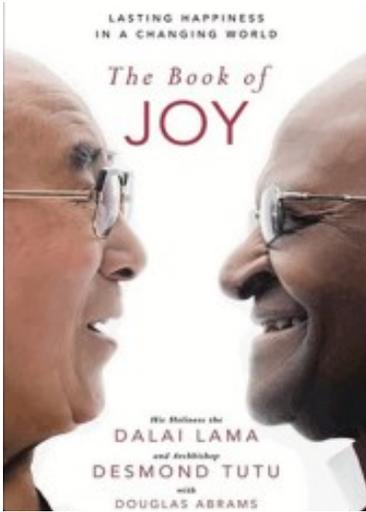
### BABY SHOWER

You are invited to participate in a Baby Shower for our new friends from Afghanistan. We will welcome two new babies in May. The Salarzai family, which our church is sponsoring, will welcome a baby boy, and our interpreter, Obaid, and his wife are also expecting a child.

We are so grateful and blessed to be working with these lovely people and want to support them at this exciting but demanding time in their lives. The Sponsorship Team will gather to celebrate the birth of the new babies in June. Meanwhile, we would like to provide them with the necessities for the first month after the babies arrive. If you have any of the following items, or would like provide these families with basic necessities for a newborn, please let us know. We will provide the families with a Pack-N-Play for the babies to sleep in. There is a baby bassinet set up in the Gathering Place to receive your gifts. Thank you for your support.

- Car Seats (for infants)
- Strollers
- Blankets
- Sheets for a Pack-N-Play
- Infant Bathing tub
- Baby towels and washcloths
- Basic clothing for babies, newborn to 6 months.
- Onesies
- Socks
- Diapers (disposable)
- Gift cards to Meijer or Target

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### THE BOOK OF JOY

We know that deep joy, enduring happiness can't be found in any single achievement, fame, or fortune. The Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu spent a week together as friends. They traded intimate stories, teased each other, and shared their spiritual practices. Douglas Abrams was along for the ride and was asked by them to compose a book based on their conversation. From obstacles to joy—fear, stress, anger, grief, illness, death—to eight pillars of joy, they offer insights from personal stories, wisdom, and science. We'll meet for seven weeks to reflect on this book together. *The Book of Joy* (New York: Avery, 2016) can be found through your favorite local bookseller or Amazon. Here below is the schedule for our reading each week, meeting on Tuesdays at noon in the Library, beginning May 10. Please, contact Pastor Seth Weeldreyer with any questions.

May 10th	Pages 1-49	May 17th	Pages 51-92
May 24th	Pages 93-134	May 31st	Pages 135-188
June 7th	Pages 191-222	June 14th	Pages 223-262
June 21st	Pages 263-305		

**MEMORIAL SERVICE**  
 We will share a Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Elsie Johnson, on Saturday May 28th at 11:00a.m.



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Save the date! Family Vacation Bible School will be held in the evenings of August 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>. Details to follow!

### YOUTH SUNDAY: JUNE 5TH

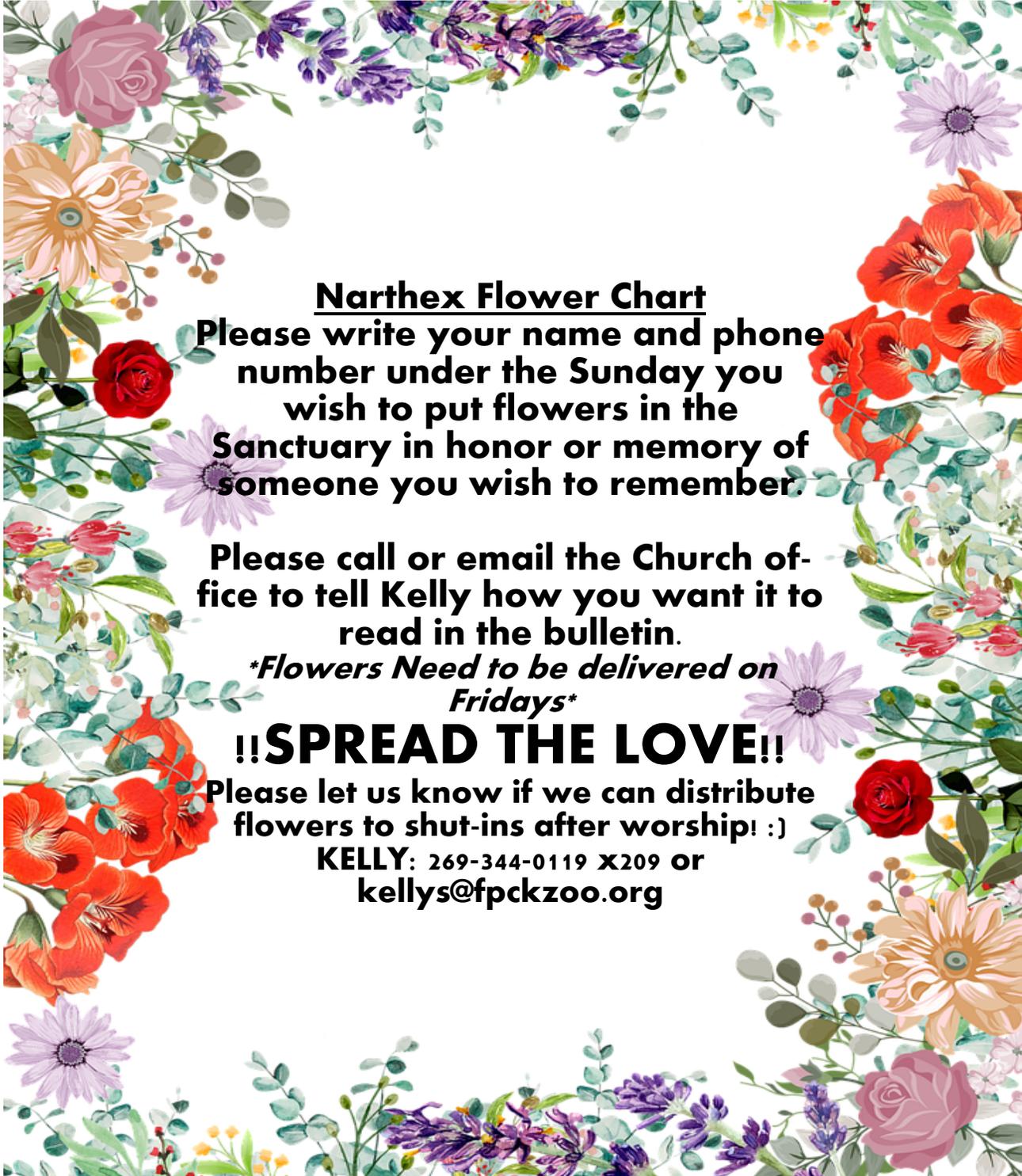
Join us for a youth-led worship service with our graduates presenting their senior sermons. Details to follow!



**FREE PUBLIC CONCERT**  
Kalamazoo First Presbyterian Church

**Musician, Speaker, Author**  
**DAVID LAMOTTE**  
Award-Winning Songwriter and Itinerant Peace Activist

**MAY 21**  
**2022**  
**7:00 p.m.**



**Narthex Flower Chart**

**Please write your name and phone number under the Sunday you wish to put flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or memory of someone you wish to remember.**

**Please call or email the Church office to tell Kelly how you want it to read in the bulletin.**

***\*Flowers Need to be delivered on Fridays\****

**!!SPREAD THE LOVE!!**

**Please let us know if we can distribute flowers to shut-ins after worship! :)**

**KELLY: 269-344-0119 X209 or  
kellys@fpckzoo.org**

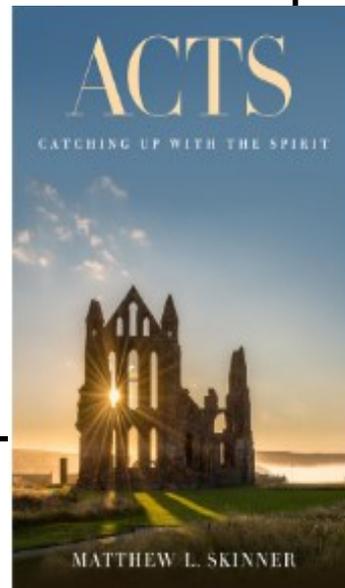
## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CATCHING UP WITH THE SPIRIT: A STUDY OF ACTS

**Thursdays May 19 – June 23, 9:30 a.m. Women’s Bible Study, Room 314/315**

The Acts of the Apostles is a unique and crucial book that chronicles the story of God’s grace flooding out to the world through the lives of the apostles in the decades immediately following Christ’s ascension into heaven. In *Acts: Catching up with the Spirit*, author and biblical scholar Matthew Skinner provides a broad yet theologically attuned introduction to this important book and its story of the early church learning to bear witness about God’s salvation through Jesus Christ. Skinner explores six key themes that illustrate the ways in which reading Acts is capable of igniting our imagination about the character of the Christian message, the work of God’s people (the church), and the challenges of living faithfully in a complex and changing world.

Join Pastor Chrissy for this deep-dive into the book of Acts. The book can be ordered on Amazon or through your favorite local bookseller! If you need assistance in getting ahold of the book, contact Pastor Chrissy.



### YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Young Adult Group will meet Friday, May 20 at 7pm for BOWLING at Eastland Bowl on Gull Road! This group is especially for recent high school graduates up to age 25. All are welcome.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HEARTS-TO-HANDS CARD MINISTRY

We were overwhelmed by the response to our Easter and other cards in April, and we thank all those who shared them with others. We appreciate the kind comments and the donations that went to support our youth's upcoming West Virginia mission trip.

Yes, our group has, as Seth called it in his Easter message, "a cave of creativity, a lair of Imagination, a den of ...really just a basement room" where you are invited to join us on Monday, May 9, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for fellowship and card-making. We have plenty of supplies to use, and skills, ideas, and techniques to share with one another. And even if you are not feeling very creative that day, we could use your help in sorting the overabundance of rubber stamps, cards, and envelopes in the crafting room.



If you'd like to be added to the email contact list for Card Ministry, contact Julie Kechele at [juliekech@gmail.com](mailto:juliekech@gmail.com).

On Sunday, May 1, we will again be in the Gathering Place, before and after Worship, with cards that you may take to share for Mother's Day, birthdays, caring, gratitude, sympathy, and other occasions.

Donations received for our handmade cards this month will be donated to Mothers of Hope, a group of women of color headquartered on Kalamazoo's North Side. According to [mothers-of-hope.org](http://mothers-of-hope.org), their purpose is to "empower mothers in an effort to better our community. Through our various efforts, we are committed to ensuring that our neighborhoods are well educated and equipped with all the knowledge and resources available to guarantee a better quality of life for all people here in Kalamazoo."

*\*\*We plan to have cards available on Sunday, June 5, when we will feature Fathers' Day and graduation cards.\*\**

### TAIZÉ WORSHIP

This style of worship fosters a more contemplative spirit, including readings and prayers interspersed with silence and singing led by piano. Sitting in a circle around candles in the middle, it's a simpler, centering way to share worship. Come give it a try on **Sunday, May 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the East Transept of our Sanctuary!**

## TENTATIVE WEEKLY CALENDAR

### OFFICE HOURS

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

Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

#### **Today, May 1**

8:30 a.m. Reading Aloud, *Conference Room*  
9:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, *Sanctuary*  
10:00 a.m. Worship, *Sanctuary*  
11:15 a.m. Refugee Meeting, *Room 301*

#### **Monday, May 2**

12:00 p.m. A.A., *Room 314-315*  
6:30 p.m. Congregational Life Meeting,  
7:00 p.m. Scouts, *Dining Room/ Room 102*  
7:00 p.m. Thoughtful Readers, *Room 300*  
7:30 p.m. Communications Committee Meeting

#### **Tuesday, May 3**

All Day Stitchers, *Sewing Room*  
7:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship, *Archives*  
10:00 a.m. Bulletin Deadline  
11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, *Archives*  
12:00 p.m. Reflection on Resurrection, *Library*  
3:30 p.m. Memorial Service Nancy Boutelle, *Sanctuary*

#### **Wednesday, May 4**

All Day Stitchers, *Sewing Room*  
12:00 p.m. Prayer Service, *Sanctuary*  
5:00 p.m. Celebrate the Vision, *Dining Room*  
6:15 p.m. Celebrate the Vision, Worship, *Gathering Place*  
7:00 p.m. W.O.W., *Offsite*

#### **Thursday, May 5**

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study, *Room 314/*  
12:00 p.m. A.A., *Room 314/315*  
12:00 p.m. Library Work Time, *Library*  
5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, *Room 116*  
7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, *Gathering Place*  
7:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee, *Archives*

#### **Sunday, May 8**

8:30 a.m. Reading Aloud, *Conference Room*  
9:20 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, *Sanctuary*  
9:30 a.m. Child Care & Toddlers, *Rooms 208/211*  
10:00 a.m. Worship, *Sanctuary*  
10:15 a.m. Church School, *Third Floor*  
11:15 a.m. Refugee Meeting, *Room 301*

### DAVID LAMOTTE: STORYTELLING LUNCH WORKSHOP

Community Building Through  
Sharing Our Stories; . May 22, at 11:30  
a.m. in the Dining Room

David LaMotte has taught poetry and  
songwriting workshops and classes to  
groups from middle school through  
master's degree classes the workshop is  
free of charge to church members and  
friends. Register at:  
<https://tinyurl.com/2p9x978p> or scan  
QR code on your mobile device!



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO**  
321 W. South Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

**www.kzoofirstpres.org**  
**Telephone: (269) 344-0119**

The Reverend Dr. Seth Weeldreyer, Pastor, x202  
The Reverend Chrissy Westbury, Associate Pastor, x203  
Meredith Alspach, Director of Youth and Families, x208  
Louise Taylor, Financial Coordinator, x206  
Kelly Short, Communications Coordinator, x209  
J.A. Lewellen, Operations Coordinator, x205  
Carl Witt Director of Music, x220  
Autumn, Organist  
Shawn Smith, Building Superintendent, x213  
Custodians

Library  
South Lobby Receptionists, x221

The Reverend Dr. Liz Hakken Candido, Parish Associate  
The Reverend Amber Nettleton, Parish Associate  
The Reverend Kathleen Robertson King, Parish Associate and United Campus Ministry Pastor

**facebook.com/asanctuaryinthecity**  
**Fax: (269) 344-4645**

sethw@fpckzoo.org  
chrissyw@fpckzoo.org  
mereditha@fpckzoo.org  
louiset@fpckzoo.org  
kellys@fpckzoo.org  
jal@fpckzoo.org  
carlw@fpckzoo.org  
autumn@fpckzoo.org  
shawns@fpckzoo.org  
Randy Randt

Logan McCafferty  
library@fpckzoo.org  
Bruce Birkel, Bob Brush  
Sandy Sinotte, Deb Weurding  
elizabeth.candido@kzoo.edu  
amber.nettleton@gmail.com  
ucmkrking@yahoo.com

**UPCOMING WORSHIP— 10:00 a.m.**

**May 8**

**The Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**The Rev. Amber Nettleton**  
Psalm 23; John 10:22-30

**May 22**

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
**David Lamotte**  
Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Luke 10:25-37

**May 15**

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**The Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer**  
John 13:31-35; Acts 9:1-20

**May 29**

**The Seventh Sunday of Easter**  
**The Rev. Chrissy Westbury**  
Acts 1:1-11; John 17:20-26

*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.*