

NOVEMBER
2018

Battle Creek, MI 49017

269.964.3700

171 Capital Avenue N.E.

firstpresbc.org

THE CARILLON





From Our Lead Pastor

"IN ALL THIS I HAVE GIVEN YOU AN EXAMPLE THAT BY SUCH WORK WE MUST SUPPORT THE WEAK, REMEMBERING THE WORDS OF THE LORD JESUS, FOR HE HIMSELF SAID, 'IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE'" (ACTS 20:35 NRSV).

Dear Friends:

According to our Lord Jesus, the generous life is a blessed life. Of course, generosity is so much more than being generous with money, though it certainly includes that. The source of radical generosity is a Gospel-transformed heart that has received the costly grace of God. As humble recipients of God's grace we can be agents of life-giving, generous grace to those around us.

For a three-week period in November, we will be exploring the responsibilities and benefits of generous living. Join us in worship starting November 4 as we begin our new series called *The Generous Life*.

On November 11 we will have the opportunity to express how we may wish to offer our time, talents, and spiritual gifts in service to the Lord. Those who have not yet completed the annual Time and Talent survey will be given some time on this Sunday to do so.

At the conclusion of this series on *The Generous Life*, we will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of our financial offerings to God through our church in the coming year. We will dedicate these commitments in the worship service on Celebration Sunday November 18, 2018. This service will also include a re-dedication of the building after the recent renovations and in keeping with the 90th anniversary of the dedication of the original building (November 18, 1928). A special Celebration Lunch will follow this service.

Yours in Christ,

Jeff

From Our Associate Pastor

As I write this the fall colors are starting to be beautiful. By the time you read this, probably most of the leaves will be gone from the trees. We will be wondering what kind of winter it will be. How many days will be super-snowy? When is the first Sunday in advent? What do I want for Christmas? How will we do it all?

First, though, we stop and give thanks. The Bible encourages us to always be thankful people. I'm going to keep a *Gratitude Journal* in November. It's already on my calendar! Sometimes I forget spiritual practices in my haste to accomplish or, my lazy wasting of time. I'm so grateful *every day* that God hasn't forgotten to care about me.

Now thank we all our God,

With heart and hands and voices..

The one eternal God,

Whom heaven and earth adore,

the God who was, and is,

and shall be evermore.

(Glory to God #643)

Pat Weatherwax

NOTES FROM THE OCTOBER MEETING OF SESSION

Carl McCune, Clerk of Session

A motion came from the Ad Hoc Personnel Task Force to increase the Terms of Call for Rev. Pat Weatherwax by \$4,000 as a one-time payment due to temporary assumption of additional duties during Pastor Jeff's illness. The total cost to the Church will be \$5,480 (which includes Board of Pension dues for medical and retirement benefits). The motion carried and a special meeting of the Congregation will be called for November 4, 2018 for the congregation to vote on this proposal. A resolution of appreciation prevailed for the work of the Task Force members: Tom Cole, David Lucas, Mary Maley, Jean Parker and Bill Winslow.

The Board Reorganization Task Force brought a report which showed how the church could function with the current responsibilities of the Board of Trustees transferring to the Session. Four new committees of Session would be created: Generosity Ministry Team, Personnel Committee, Property Committee and Finance Committee. While this is being studied by Trustees and Ruling Elders, the Task Force will continue to work on a proposed change to the Church Bylaws.

The Safety Steering Committee announced that a training by the Battle Creek Police Department is scheduled for November 10, 2018 from 9:00 – 1:00 and urged participation by church staff, leaders, ushers, greeters, Sunday School teachers and any other interested members of the Congregation. Those interested should respond to the church office by November 4.

A motion from the Worship Ministries Team prevailed to authorize the following observances of the Lord's Supper: November 4 Intinction, December 2 Trays, January 6 (2019) Intinction, February 3 Trays (choice of wine or grape juice), March 3 Trays, April 7 Trays, April 18 Family Style (Maundy Thursday), May 5 no Communion (Youth Sunday), June 2 Trays, July 7 Intinction, August 4 Pre-filled Containers (at Retreat Center), September 1 Intinction, October 6 Trays (choice of wine or grape juice), November 3 Intinction, December 1 Trays.

Membership Update Current Active Membership is 308.

Presbytery of Lake Michigan It was reported from the September 21-22 Presbytery Meeting that Per Capita for 2019 will be increased from \$28.98 to \$32.20.

Associate Pastor Interested people are being sought to work in partnership with the W K Kellogg Preparatory High School.

Building Improvement The refurbished Sanctuary was used for the first time on October 7. There will be a service of Rededication and Celebration on November 18 which will also recognize the 90th anniversary of the church building. Upholstery for the center pews may not be available however until December after which the current Building Improvement Committee will be dissolved. Appreciation was expressed

THE DEACONS CORNER

The Deacons are on the move as they prepare for the giving season. Chairperson for the Thanksgiving drive, Steve Owel, reports that food and gift cards for **21 baskets** have been ordered. Packing the baskets is scheduled for November 18th and pickup and delivery will take place November 19th. Baskets will be available at First Presbyterian Church.

Deacons have been asked to help serve **Thanksgiving Dinner at Sally's Kitchen** Soup Kitchen—dates will be scheduled.

Crop Walk was a very successful event this year as over \$1,700 was donated from First Presbyterian Church with 2 pledge envelopes still out. Thank you Kathy Baker and Finley McRae for chairing this great program.

The **Food Pantry** still needs plastic containers of juice, boxed mac and cheese and peanut butter. Baskets located at the west entrance of the church are waiting for your generous donations! Have a great month.

THE BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE & SALLY'S KITCHEN

First Presbyterian along with 20 similar organizations sponsor "Sally's Kitchen", the Soup Kitchen of Battle Creek located at the Salvation Army building at 400 Capital Avenue N.W. Sally's kitchen serves lunch Monday through Friday from 11:30AM to 1:00PM and Saturday from noon to 1:30PM. On the third Thursday of each month, First Pres purchases, cooks and serves. Our cooking crew begins around 9:00AM to prepare spaghetti, bread, vegetable, fruit, coleslaw, dessert and milk. Then our serving crew works until 1:00PM. Other organizations do the same on twenty other days of the month. On the days that are not covered by these groups, the Salvation Army kitchen crew prepares the food and various groups such as ours serve the meals. We always serve on the fifth Thursday, when there are five weeks in a month, and normally one to three other days. **From January through August of this year, 30,073 lunches have been served at Sally's Kitchen** by these groups combined.

STEWARDSHIP SERIES: THE GENEROUS LIFE

Join us in November for this three-part series.

November 4 (1) The Grace of Generosity Acts 20:35

November 11 (2) The Transformation of Generosity Romans 12:1-2

November 18 (3) The Outgrowth of Generosity 1 Corinthians 3:5-11

At the conclusion of this series we will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of our offerings to God through our church in the coming year. We will dedicate these commitments in the worship service on Celebration Sunday (the same day as our Celebration Luncheon and re-dedication of the building)

November 18, 2018.

ADVENT SERIES: CALL HIS NAME JESUS

These services celebrate the wonderful name of Jesus as well as other names and titles by which we worship the Child of Bethlehem, our Savior: Lamb, Shepherd, Emmanuel, Son and Word.

December 2 (1) WHAT'S IN A NAME

Isaiah 52:7-10; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 1:26-38

December 9 (2) BEHOLD, THE LAMB OF GOD

Exodus 12:1-7, 13; 1 Peter 1:17-21; John 1:29-34

December 16 (3) SHELTERED BY THE SHEPHERD

Psalms 23; Revelation 7:13-17; John 10:14-18

December 23 (4) GOD WITH US

Isaiah 7:10-14; Colossians 1:15-20; Matthew 1:18-23

Annual Presbyterian Women Christmas Tea is December 1st

Our annual PW Christmas Tea will take place on Saturday, December 1st, at 2PM in the church Sanctuary. The theme for this year is "God's Promise: God With Us as Emanuel." We have two wonderful guest musicians for our program; Alexis Star and Ramberto Bastell.



Alexis is a local singer who is a private voice instructor. She is a native of Albion and a graduate of Western Michigan University with a major in Music Education. She teaches through her private studio, Starkissimo, and the Gull Lake Homeschool Partnership. She previously taught at the Community Music School in Battle Creek, Marshall, Albion and Vicksburg. She is active in the community serving as a section leader and soloist in the Battle Creek Community Chorus and the St. Thomas Episcopal Church Choir. She also is a member of the Battle Creek Master Singers.

Ramberto was born in a small town in southern Puerto Rico. He experienced many styles of Caribbean music as he was growing up. Later, he added American and British rock music to his musical tastes. He moved to Battle Creek in 2006 and met other musicians in the area. He taught guitar and bass at the Community Music School for two years. He has a style of playing the guitar that incorporates many special techniques.

We invite everyone to come and enjoy this unique program of voice and guitar music. We encourage you to stay after the performance to enjoy refreshments in the Parlor.

This year's Thanksgiving Special Offering goes to the **Charitable Union of Battle Creek**. Their purpose is to contribute to human dignity. They provide clothing, bedding and small household items at no charge and connect people to resources in the community.



Please consider making a monetary gift to this valuable community resource.

ROSES OF THANKS

Kiran Bilanow thanks all for the many prayers, support and cards upon the passing of her niece.

Roses to Ruth and Arden Hetletvedt, Chris and Steve Owel and Jean Parker for assisting with the Charitable Union "Back to School" distribution.

A huge "thank you" to everyone from our congregation who dined at Findley's on September 27th on behalf of the area Food Pantries, from the 1st Pres Pantry Team. Many thanks to Kiran, Marla, Jean and Carol who helped in the nursery this summer and for those who have volunteered to serve in the nursery this fall and winter.

REFLECTIONS OF YESTERYEAR

By Martin Ashley, Historian of First Presbyterian Church Battle Creek



The sanctuary in 1928 upon the dedication of the build-

The month of November has a special place in the history of First Presbyterian Church. It was on Thanksgiving Day of 1927 that we laid the Cornerstone of what would become our present house of worship. Just a year later, during a week-long series of services starting on November 18, we formally dedicated our new Norman Gothic edifice.

The Sanctuary of our new church included a “beautiful chancel of carved oak, rising in a series of elevations, at the bottom of which is the communion table with the seats for the elders. The next elevation is the pulpit platform with seats for the ministers, above this are the choir loft and the organ console. Built in the great arch to the right and the left is the great Skinner organ, and thence up to the roof a lattice work of carved wood furnishes an exquisite blending with the ornamental pipes.”

Through the years changes were made to the chancel, updating and enlarging it to accommodate new styles of worship as well as an expanded music program.

Our Sanctuary also saw additions of stained glass medallions in the windows,

padded pews in the center section and later, wheel chair accessible seating.

By 2011, we started seriously looking once again at the improvement of our Sanctuary, including redesigning our Chancel to allow more flexible use of the existing space. By 2014, plans were completed and construction was started on an enlarged Chancel platform. On November 23 of that year, we celebrated its completion with the first of several services of dedication showing the different ways to utilize the new Chancel to enhance our worship experience. Since that time we have moved forward with what you may call “Phase 2”, which included staining and repair of our pews to match the Chancel, replacement of the flooring under-

neath the pews, and completely painting the entire Sanctuary, including the ceiling and towers.

We arrive again in the month of

November, ready to celebrate the completion of our refurbished worship space. We have much to be proud of, just as our “forefathers” did ninety years ago when they dedicated their new church. Let us rejoice in this festive time as we gather to stop and admire the work that has been accomplished and rededicate our Sanctuary to the worship and service of Almighty God.

The following excerpt was taken from the November 19, 1928 issue of the Battle Creek Enquirer & News and tells of the dedication services for our church building that were held the day before,

“The dedication of a church is to any community a notable event. The church, the single institution founded by Christ, is the greatest service organization known to men, all other service organizations drawing their ideals from that. The dedication of the First Presbyterian Church in Battle Creek yesterday -- a city known the world over for its food products and its experimentation and demonstration in the field of physical health -- was especially notable.



The sanctuary in November 2018 after refurbishing

Dr. George N. Luccock, Wooster, O., director of two great theological seminaries in the Presbyterian denomination made the above statements in the dedicatory sermon at the dedication exercises at the new First Presbyterian Church yesterday morning. Together with other notables in the church world, Dr. Luccock came to Battle Creek for the event. He preached at the 11 o'clock services when the new main auditorium, seating 1,200 persons and the church proper were dedicated. His subject was "Struggling Up and Staying Up."

Dr. Luccock termed the church - the church in general - the single dependable basis for society and the state. All other institutions, he said, divide the family and the community in separate interests. The church brings them together and holds them together.

Three great services were held yesterday as part of the dedication ceremonies which will extend through this week, ending with the Thanksgiving service next Sunday morning. At the community service, at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon when the church took its place in the city, there were 500 people present, following the attendance of 1,200 in the morning. At popular services held last night, when Dr. Luccock spoke again, and music was furnished by the Community Choral club under the direction of Malden H. Serns, there were 700 persons present.

The services yesterday at the new church were spectacular. People began to throng to the new church for the dedication services in the morning long before the service hour and filled the auditorium, main floor and balcony, entirely, as well as the narthex, stairs and every available space. The new auditorium, used for the first time, provided a beautiful setting. Floral decorations, gifts of florists, manufacturers and friends of the church and its members were profuse. The procession of elders, trustees, the building committee which handled the financing of the church, and supervised its construction and furnishing, and the presiding ministers, while the choir sang the processional hymn, was impressive.

The services were climaxed by the ceremony in which the congregation and the Rev. A. T. Tomshany, pastor, pronounced the words of dedication, with declaration by the pastor, and the keys of the new building were formally handed over by Verner W. Main, chairman of the building committee to Eugene H. McKay, chairman of the board of trustees.

In his declaration The Rev. Mr. Tomshany said:

"For us of this church, this is a glorious day. For today we see the realization of our fondest hopes. Today we have the answer of our fervent prayers. Today we see the crystallization of our endeavors. All this, because today, we dedicate this magnificent structure - a fitting instrument with which to worship God - a conspicuous and splendid monument in our already beautiful city - an eloquent testimony of the Presbyterians in the city of Battle Creek to their love, loyalty and devotion to religion and to God."



Pictured here are different stages of this year's sanctuary refurbishing. All pews were removed and refinished to match the darker wood of the chancel, a special crane was employed to reach the 60' high ceilings and walls for painting and cleaning of the beams. Once the flooring was replaced and the pews reinstalled, the piano and our great Spinner organ were returned and retuned. Finally the carpets and windows were cleaned, pews were restocked and dusted, and a final sound check was performed.

Monday, November 5th

Das Dutchman Essenhaus

We depart at 10AM sharp for Middlebury,
IN for lunch & shopping! \$23 RSVP to
office by noon Nov 2nd



Monday, December 3rd

Kellogg Manor House Christmas Lunch

We will depart promptly at 10:45AM. \$28
RSVP to church office by Nov 26th



Come one!

Come all!

See the

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

Join us for a potluck at 5:30 and the
6:15PM movie showing in Fellowship Hall.
Bring a friend! Wednesday, Nov 28th

plan ahead!



ANTICIPATING CHRISTMAS

Enjoy this "first" Dec 2, 2018, 11:15-1:15 PM family

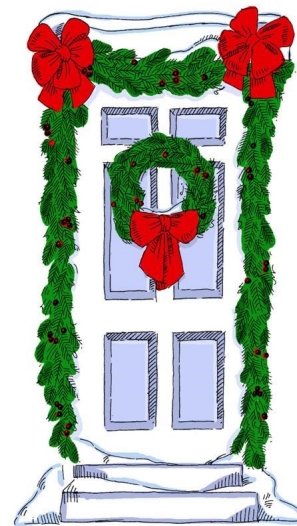
invite your friends, too! Fellowship Hall

Carols, crafts, cookies & our chili cook-off!
If you want to be in the chili competition-
we will have 3 categories (mild, spicy, and
non-traditional) Bring chili if you'd like to
try for a trophy and bragging rights.

We will also have stew or soup to eat for
those who do not like chili.

We'll also need servers, folks to help set up
and clean up. Enjoy this "first Sunday in
Advent" celebration with your church
family and invite your friends, too!

See or call Jana Turpin (269-420-3060) if
you have questions.



Holiday Greens Sale

*There's still time to order before
the November 18th deadline!*

Place your order with a senior high
youth member.

or

write in your order on any of the
forms located in the Parlor, elevator,
on bulletin boards

or

call the church office
Monday– Friday 9A—4P

16" SWAG \$15

24" WREATH \$20

36" WREATH \$30

20' ROPING \$20

*Write wreath sale on your check
memo*

Orders will be available for pickup
in the Parlor after worship on
Sunday, November 25th
and the following Monday– Friday
during office hours at the church

All sale profits go towards youth
summer mission experiences

Thank you!

VOLUNTEER VIBE!

Knitter's Alert We could use knitted or crocheted prayer shawls for our prayer ministry,
and also scarves, hats and mittens for Charitable Union and WK Preparatory High
School students. Bring them to room 209.

Nursery volunteers are needed. With enough helpers you would only be needed every
other month. Sign- up sheet available or call church office.

Safety Team. If interested in participating in the newly formed safety team for church,
see Belinda Bullard or Pastor Pat.

Keep the cookies coming for our Sunday Morning Coffee Hour. Volunteers are needed to
provide prepared finger-foods: fruit, veggies, sweet and/or salty treats. Simply leave in
the kitchenette next to the parlor on Sunday morning. Many thanks to those providing
these treats.

Early Child Connections (ECC) programs at our church need volunteers. The Music First
Program is Mondays at 3:30 -4:30 p.m. and the Toddlers Play Group on Tuesdays 10 -
11:00 a.m. Sign-up sheet available or see Jean Parker.

Help is needed for funeral receptions for providing food and helping serve. Sign-up
sheets available or contact church office.

Want to know what other volunteer assistance we need? Go to the church website,
firstpresbc.org; click on "serve"; choose a category, fill in the form and "submit".

**"Volunteer Vibe" is a monthly feature from the Connections Team, If your group has a
need for volunteers, contact Jan Emery Barney at 979-4734 or jyreme@aol.com**



Susan Oakes	11/1
Justin LaFleur	11/1
Jim Ritter	11/3
Laura Greenman	11/4
Sally Roberts	11/6
Winnie Keedy	11/6
Michael Hayward	11/8
James Spindler	11/9
Sydney Wenzler	11/11
Chris Owel	11/12
Katelyn Allen	11/13
Steve Janz	11/14
Elaine Tatum	11/16
Annettie Tribbett	11/19
Elizabeth Aimesbury	11/19
Esther Knight	11/19
Jackie Inglett	11/20
Georgia Hammons	11/22
Carolyn Rex	11/22
Dan Haas	11/23
Diane Budrow	11/23
Ginny Wilber	11/26
Jeff Carlson	11/26
David Rost	11/27
Lori Kneeland	11/29
Alexander Smith	11/28



OFF THE PRESS

Fall is here. The youth had a lot of fun out at

Cornwell's Turkeyville at the beginning of October. We got scared in the haunted barn, nearly got lost in the corn maze, and had a lot of fun on the spooky train.

The end of the month saw us carving jack-o-lanterns to be delivered out. Watch for pictures on the bulletin board.

On Sunday November 11th the church

will again be-

come a giant

mini golf

course for the

4th annual Off

the Pres mini

golf champion-

ship. Four

floors of some

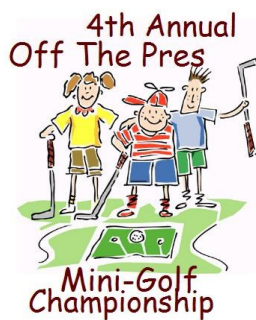
of the hardest

mini golf around. Par for the 18th hole alone is 8. We'll tee off at 3:30pm and there will be prizes for the top three finishers. Snacks will be provided. It's always a lot of fun.

Caravan is only 8 months away. Will you be joining us on a fun filled work trip to West Virginia?? See me for more info.

Doug McCune,

Youth Ministries



SAFETY MINISTRY TEAM

Safety Ministry Team is seeking volunteers for some very important roles

Sunday Safety Leader – someone willing to provide leadership in case of fire or other event requiring evacuation from the building. Requires wearing a radio to communicate with rest of team.

Monitor – someone who sits in the 2nd Floor office during worship, monitors the surveillance cameras and serves as communication link for rest of Sunday Safety Ministry Team.

Parking Lot – someone who can be in the parking lot before worship to observe the safety of people as they come into church on Sunday mornings. Requires wearing a radio to communicate with rest of team. Please contact Belinda Bullard if you are interested any of these three roles. Training will be provided.

Medical Team – if you are qualified to deliver CPR or trained in first aid, please contact Pat Weatherwax to add you to a list of people who could help in a medical emergency.

Safety Training with the Battle Creek Police Department is scheduled for Saturday, November 10 from 9 AM to 1 PM in Fellowship Hall. We are requesting that all Elders, Trustees, Deacons, Ushers, Monitors, Sunday School Teachers, Nursery Volunteers, Staff and Parking Lot support to please attend. For questions, call Larry Turpin at (269) 317-0085.



Our website at FIRSTPRESBC.ORG is regularly updated to inform our members and community. When someone says "I'M NEW and want to learn more" the website has our church story, our mission and values, history, and welcomes them to worship. Members can find descriptions of our many ministries and ways to SERVE our church, our community, and our world. Those looking to GROW their relationship with God and others can read about our Sunday classes, bible study groups, individual and pastoral care. Those who cannot attend Sunday worship can listen or read the weekly SERMONS.

Our upcoming EVENTS are listed with details on how to participate. People can "click" to get more information, they can sign up to participate, and they can request prayer support for their personal concerns.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				2		3 Set your clocks back when you go to bed!!
				7A Church at Prayer 8A Sr Pastors' Prayer Group 11A Women Who Care 6:15P Handbells Rehearsal 7:30P Choir Practice		
				8	9	10
				7A Church at Prayer 8A Sr Pastors' Prayer Group 6:15P Handbells Rehearsal 7P Elizabeth Circle 7:30P Choir Practice	9:30A Sew N Sews	9A Safety Training
				7		
				9A PW Bible Study 11A Staff Meeting 5:30P Bible Study		
				14	16	17
				11A Staff Meeting 5:30P Bible Study	7A Church at Prayer 8A Sr Pastors' Prayer Group 10A PW Coordinating Team 6:15P Handbells Rehearsal 7P Men's Fellowship 7:30P Choir Practice	
				21	23	24
				11A Staff Meeting Office Closes at Noon 5:30P Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	
				28	30	
				11A Staff Meeting 5:30P Potluck 6:15P MOVIE NIGHT	7A Church at Prayer 8A Sr Pastors' Prayer Group 6:15P Handbells Rehearsal 7:30P Choir Practice	
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THE CARILLON IS A FREE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

111 Capital Avenue NE

Battle Creek, MI 49017

Firstpresbc.org

NOVEMBER 18 1928

The week of November 18, 1928 saw dedication ceremonies for the newly completed First Presbyterian Church building in Battle Creek. More than 2,200 gathered at three services as our Norman Gothic house of worship “took its place in the city”. The “Reflections of Yesteryear” insert written by our church historian, Martin Ashley tells the story of that original dedication.

Now 90 years later, with the completion of our sanctuary restoration, we will gather for a rededication of our church and a Celebration Sunday on November 18th. Following this special worship service, there will be a luncheon in Fellowship Hall to continue our celebration. Please RSVP to the church office.



CELEBRATION *Sunday*

First Presbyterian Church exists to share God's love and grace

with all people and celebrate the truth of Jesus Christ.