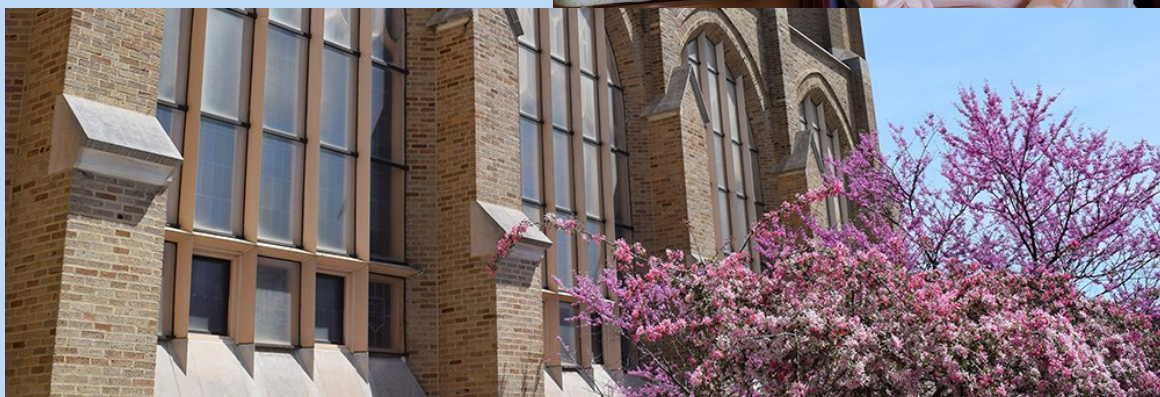


May 2019

Volume 26 Issue 5

The Carillon



First Presbyterian Church of Battle Creek

Firstpresbc.org



From the Lead Pastor

Dear Friends:

But you should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you (2 Tim 4:5 NLT).

May 5 will mark a new chapter in the life of First Presbyterian Church. Currently we have three boards at First Presbyterian Church: Deacons, Trustees, and Elders (Session). But on May 5 we will combine the Trustees and Elders into one board so we would end up with two boards: Deacons and Session. Most Presbyterian Churches have gone to this format. It better fits the size of our congregation. It simplifies the structure. It also makes the work of the Nominating Committee more realistic.

The new structure also necessitates a new format for committees and ministry teams of Session. An explanation of terms is in order. A committee studies and recommends policy to Session and manages delegated work. It is led by a chairperson who is currently a member of Session. A ministry team acts to accomplish goals and makes recommendations to Session. It is led by a moderator who is not necessarily a member of Session.

The new committees of Session are: FINANCE COMMITTEE (Formerly Budget, Financial Management); PROPERTY COMMITTEE (Formerly Building Improvement, Facilities, Transportation); and PERSONNEL COMMITTEE.

The ministry teams are: CONNECTION MINISTRY TEAM; DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY TEAM (Formerly Christian Education & Discipleship); GENEROSITY MINISTRY TEAM (Formerly Stewardship, Planned Giving); MISSION MINISTRY TEAM (Formerly Benevolence Committee); SAFETY MINISTRY TEAM; and WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM.

The MINISTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL remains to provide advice and counsel to the leadership of the church regarding the health, direction and ministries of the church. The NOMINATING COMMITTEE remains a committee of the Congregation as defined by the Bylaws to nominate one person for each vacant position on the Session, and the Board of Deacons, and for each member at large position on the Nominating Committee.

Yours in Christ,

Jeffrey S. Carlson

Condolences ...

to the Hardenberg family on the passing of **Walter Hardenberg** on March 29th.

We extend our sympathies to the family of **Esther Knight** who passed away on April 2nd. Esther was our oldest member.

The church family extends its love and sympathy to Pastor Pat Weatherwax and her family on the loss of her daughter, **Holly Weatherwax** on April 7th.

Condolences are given to the family and loved ones of our member, **Donna Hodges** who passed away on April 8th.

We offer our sympathies to the family and friends of **Bob Bokhart** who passed on April 10th.

Condolences go out to Melva Zaharion on the passing of her son, **Rusty Zaharion**, on Easter Sunday.

Pictured on this month's Carillon cover....

Starting at upper left corner and going clockwise: The Outreach Foundation in Zimbabwe (see page 5); Camp Greenwood kids (what will happen? page 4); a row of happy faces on Easter Sunday; Vicki Grant and mother Edith Walsh on the occasion of her 103rd birthday; spring flowers on first Pres; a Second Mile Center kid feeds a calf (see story on page 6); Gerald & Jeannie Long to speak at First Pres (story on Page 6); [center](#) Ada Compton lends her lovely voice to lead us in song on Easter Sunday.



From the Associate Pastor

"If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's (Romans 14:7)."

When my daughter Holly was 10, her beloved Grandpa Weatherwax was nearing his death from advanced cancer. Our pastor at the time had recently read verses, and gave a message from Romans 14. Verse 7 struck her and she shared that back to him, when he was expressing his sympathy.

We are always the Lord's. That is the covenantal theology we profess. God's love and grace are always stronger than our human fragility.

I appreciate every kindness you have shown. As I walk the grief journey, I am ever mindful that many of you are there, too. Let's walk side by side.

God loves you and so do I.

Pat Weatherwax

Pat Weatherwax



..AND THANKS

Thank you to my wonderful church family for the wishes, cards and calls after my recent ro-

tator cuff surgery. You make my heart glad and my healing easier. God Bless each one of you.

Blessings, Sue Healy

Thanks to *Jean Rost, Finley McRae* and *Fred Sawchuk* for their help in cleaning up outside the church and youth building.

Thanks to *Carl McCune, Finley McRae, Fred Sawchuk, Judy Yettaw, Kathy Baker, Mary Lusk, Paul Yettaw, Paula Coleman* and *Steve Owel* that helped with Sanctuary Spring cleaning on April 15th - it's always a nice way to officially welcome spring to our church home and prepare for Easter.

Thanks to *Kathy Baker, Loretta Gold, Mary Maley* and *Finley McRae* for helping to make the crosses for Palm Sunday - knowing that each cross is made by a real person is like having a personal prayer made for just for you.



All are welcome! We changed up days and times so more can come and enjoy these outings.

May 8 WEDNESDAY! Chelsea. Lunch at Common Grill and then on to the Purple Rose Theater matinee. If you have made your reservation, remember we leave at 11a.m. Home about 7P.

June 4 TUESDAY will be dinner at Bill's Steak House in Bronson. Leave 3:30P. Home about 7:30P.

July 1 MONDAY! Gilmore Car Museum and the Blue Moon Dinner. Leave at 10a.m. Home about 4p.m.

Call the church office at 964.3700 or email office@firstpresbc.org to reserve your space for any XYZ outing.

OUR 2019

CARAVAN TEAM

Please pray for our youth

Daniel Janz
James Burns
Justin LaFleur
Laura LaFleur
Katelyn Allen
Kennedy Allen
Marcus Peevers
Nichelle Woods

and their leaders

Chris & Jackie Allen
Doug McCune
Jim Hoglen
Josh Liechty
Tom Till.

Volunteer Vibe

- The Second Mile Center Kids will be coming the weekend of May 3rd—5th and you can help! Check the bulletin board at the East Entrance for volunteer sign-up and the post-it notes sign-up for food.
- Volunteers needed to serve as Parking Lot Greeters throughout the Spring and Summer. If interested in serving, please contact Larry Turpin at 317-0085.
- Transportation volunteers are needed for bringing people to church. If you can help please contact the church office.
- Volunteers are always needed to provide prepared finger-foods: fruit, veggies, sweet and/or salty treats for the Sunday morning coffee hour. Leave the treats in the kitchenette next to the parlor on Sunday a.m. Many thanks to those providing these treats.
- You can help with the kids visiting from the Second Mile Center. Contact Jean Parker at 965-8776.
- Volunteers are needed to help May 7 during the *Awakening Hope in Suffering* program. Contact Lisa Brown 968-2020
- Want to know what other volunteer assistance we need? Go to the church website, firstpresbc.org; click on "serve" at the top of the screen; then choose a category. If this won't work for you contact Lisa Brown (968-2020) or Jan Emery (979-4734) and they will be happy to help you with it.

"Volunteer Vibe" is a monthly feature from the Connections Team, focusing on places where volunteers are needed and who to contact to offer your services. If your group or program has a need for volunteers, contact Jan Emery Barney at 979-4734 or jyreme@aol.com to have your request listed in the next issue of the Carillon.

Notes from SESSION

Prayers of condolence and support for Pastor Pat Weatherwax were offered upon hearing of the death of her daughter, Holly.

A motion prevailed to re-activate the membership of Mary (McPhee) Vore at her request.

A motion prevailed to authorize the baptism of James Ryan Vore on May 19, 2019 if this is an agreeable date. James was born on November 28, 2018 to Justin and Mary Vore.

We received a note of appreciation from the Presbytery Financial Team regarding our full payment of Per Capita for 2019.

Membership Update The deaths of Patricia Bulko on March 19, 2019 and Esther Knight on April 2, 2019 were reported. Current Active Membership is 302.

Presbytery of Lake Michigan The report of the March 16 Presbytery Meeting at Parkwood Jenison was received. The main speaker was Susan Cancro, Executive Director of Advent House Ministries in Lansing. Greenwood Ministries Association is beginning a capital campaign to secure funds to purchase the Camp Greenwood property from our Presbytery.

Lead Pastor The celebration of Rev. William Wyne's 20 years at Second Missionary Baptist was a festive occasion and our church's congratulation was included in the commemorative booklet. Eight people who attended the "Morning with the Pastor" class with Pastor Jeff have indicated a desire to join the church on May 19.

Nominating Committee A complete slate of nominations for the vacant positions on Session, Board of Deacons and Nominating Committee has been accomplished. Many of the currently-serving Trustees have agreed to be nominated for terms on Session. The (cont'd)

Congregational Meeting to elect officers will be on May 5.

Worship Ministry Team Worship will move to Fellowship Hall on June 9, 2019 for the summer.

The next regular Session meeting will be May 13, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 14.

Deacons Corner

A huge bunny hug to all the congregation members who helped with this year's Easter baskets. We served 21 families with Easter baskets that contained 33 different items along with gift cards and Easter candy. Thank you so much for your generosity!

Proud of our church!! The soup kitchen was served by volunteers from 1st Church, including Deacons and other congregational members on March 22, 28, 29. GREAT JOB!

The Franklin Food Pantry is going strong with helpful donations from 1st Pres congregation. Please keep up the good work with your donations of peanut butter, Mac-n-Cheese, Fruit juices, canned fruit and vegetables. Baskets are located at west entry. Thank you so much!!



DOES IT HAVE A FUTURE?

If you've been wondering, this is a good time to visit their website at campgreenwood.org!

Read about the new Greenwood Ministries' efforts to purchase the land from our Presbytery. It's also a good time to read about all that's coming up for the 2019 camping season.

Mission Ministries

(formerly Benevolence Committee)

The **Outreach Foundation** is a designated Presbyterian mission organization of the larger church with the goal of engaging God's people in God's work.

The foundation has three stated priorities - helping, building, and transforming the people and the church. With global partnerships, they cover five continents and thirty-seven countries. They work through community partnerships, missionaries and trips to help in very diverse and practical ways.

Some examples include:

- Leadership training in local churches and/or assisting with church construction in Africa.
- Compassion Ministries with Art in North Korea
- Motorbikes for Rural Pastors in Pakistan
- Outreach to children in Russia
- Cisterns construction in Mexico.

The transforming aspect of the three goals include the people actively involved with the ministries and the missions themselves. When you read articles in the Outreach Foundation newsletter you see phrases such as *'Called out of Fear and Into Hope'*. *"Spending precious days with the church"*. *"My life was changed forever"*. It became obvious to me that people willing to work with the organization feel blessed, given the opportunity to help. I believe we develop a richer understanding of God's teachings when we risk the vulnerability of serving.

This short article simply can't describe the value of this organization. Please visit their web site to see their current works and mission trips that are available worldwide. Listen to their podcasts (continued)

and immerse yourself in the love and caring we as Presbyterians of the PCUSA share with the world. Blessings in his word,

Carol Gault

www.theoutreachfoundation.org

May Birthdays

Mary Burg	5/1
Luella Sovern	5/1
Ruth Hetlevedt	5/1
Diane Sharp	5/2
Robin Johnkoski	5/3
Peg Prickett	5/4
Judy Yettaw	5/4
Julie Chapman	5/4
Loretta Gold	5/7
John Stetler	5/11
Paul Yettaw	5/11
Heidi Yarger	5/11
Pat Scheid	5/13
Mary Maley	5/15
Jim Rich	5/23
Josh Sherk	5/27
Pat Cox	5/28

...and

Happy 60th Anniversary

Jim and Ilene Woodman

on May 2nd

A letter from Marty Shroll

I am donating a book that might help you understand why we're glad we moved to North Dakota.

I haven't heard anyone up here say "How Fargo of you" but "North Dakota nice" is something I've heard a lot – Pastor Homan even used it in a sermon. This book contains dozens of "North Dakota nice" stories – and they're not fairy tales.

We notice the difference in attitude everywhere. Our health care providers are especially kind and thoughtful. And our doctor calls us personally with test results. People are friendly. The teenagers who work at the movie theater chat with us every time we buy tickets. Store clerks are patient and courteous. Neighbors have come down the road and plowed our driveway when they've seen that we're snowed in – and told us to call if we wanted them to do it again. A woman stopped me at a hockey game to tell me how cute my hat was. Everyone knows how to pronounce my name!

It's a whole different mind set up here – people help each other just because they can. I didn't appreciate this kind of community the last time I lived here, but I do now. It's like my church family in Michigan – only bigger!

We're starting to blend in – although Richard's Michigan roots make it a little harder for him. He still yells when a North Dakota nice driver stops to let another car go first.

I hope you enjoy the book. And anytime you'd like to come on up and see what it's like for yourself, I have a spare bedroom.

Take care – I miss you all!

Love & Hugs,

Marty

AN EVENING OF COMFORT, HOPE, & VISION

Gerard & Jeannie Long to speak at First Pres

Tuesday, May 7th will be an evening of hope for us to share with our community. Gerard Long (past director of Alpha USA) and his wife, Jeannie, will be speaking in Fellowship Hall.

Gerard and Jeannie have come to know and love God in a profound way. It's this love that has enabled them to persevere through any parent's worst nightmare and to now have even more love for Jesus Christ and for each other. God has given them an incredible vision - "As with Joseph in the Old Testament, to see hundreds of millions of people around the world released, envisioned, empowered and equipped to turn what Satan intended for evil in their lives, into something that will help and rescue millions of others."

They are eager to share their message of faith, hope and love to bring healing to the brokenhearted, (including people who are suffering through, the death of a loved one or a broken marriage or relationship) and freedom to people who are suffering through something that has happened to them through no fault of their own (e.g. abuse as a child, loss of health or finances etc.). You can learn more about their story at www.awakeningtogod.org.

Doors will open at 6:30PM for a time of fellowship and refreshment in Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in serving in some way for this event please contact Lisa Brown (269.580-6162).

The most important thing you can do is invite others that you know need to hear this message. Brochures and other promotional materials are available.



Off The Pres

I recently sent to Graduating High School Seniors, Betsy, Daniel, James Alex and Keegan some questions about their memories while at First Church and will plan on sharing their responses in the summer Carillons.

I started reminiscing about my time with them – teaching times in the Beginners Room (the wonderful little green chairs that I still use), working and learning with them on NAVARAC and CARAVAN mission experiences, Youth Group evenings ---and now, it's realizing that they will be starting the next part of their life's journey that I got a little weepy. How has the time gone so slowly and quickly at the same time?!?

As a church family at their Baptism, we have promised to support, nurture and pray for them – and I'm fairly confident that the church family will continue to support, nurture and pray for them as they follow the path that God is laying out. To have been a small part of their journey is a true joy and blessing.

Kathy Baker



May 5th is Youth Sunday. Our Youth will be leading the worship service. After worship will be the beginning of

JUST DESSERTS!

For those that are unfamiliar with this fundraiser, it concludes on June 9th with a pie in the face of one of the Caravan team members. To vote who gets it, there will be cups in the Parlor each Sunday with pictures on them. You place money in the cup of the person you want to see get the pie. Also be ready there may be a surprise or two along the way!

SECOND MILE CENTER KIDS ARE COMING

MAY 3-5!

The Second Mile Center was founded by the Presbyterian Women of Detroit in 2006. They do a lot for inner city kids – providing a place of hope where they are fed and kept safe.

We have been involved with Second Mile Center for eight years now. Again this year, we



have the pleasure of hosting 12 kids from the Center for a Field Trip to Battle Creek on May 3-5.

These kids had to *earn* the opportunity to come on this outing. Many have never been out of Detroit. They are as excited to come as we are to host them.

They will sleep at our Retreat Center, take a trip to MOOville, attempt an Escape Room in our Youth Center. They will then participate in worship on Youth Sunday.

Contact Jean Parker about volunteer and food service opportunities yet to be filled.

We are collecting paper plates, paper towels, toilet tissue, Kleenex, paper napkins, plastic silverware, Styrofoam cups and paper hotdog holders through the month of May to be delivered to the Center at a later date. Donate what you can!

To learn more about Second Mile Center, visit their website at www.secondmilecenter.org.

First Presbyterian Church

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Youth Sunday Second Mile Center Kids Visit 10A Worship <i>Congregation Meeting & Election of Officers</i> 11:15A Christian Ed	Summer office hours will be 8A-3P Monday – Friday beginning May 28 Mary Maley invites you to hear about her recent celebratory trip to Antarctica & Patagonia on May 15 at 7:15P in the Parlor.	7 7A Prayer 10A Exercise Class 10A Toddler Group 10A Safety Ministry 7P Gerard & Jeannie Long Presentation	1 9:30A PW Bible Study 11A Staff Meeting 5:30P Bible Study	2 7:45A Church at Prayer 8A SrPastors' Group 11A Women Who Care 6:15P Handbells Practice 7P Choir Practice	3 Second Mile Center Kids Visit	4 Second Mile Center Kids Visit
12 Mother's Day 10A Worship 11:15A Christian Ed	6 3:30P ECC Music First 6:30P Boy Scouts	14 7A Prayer 9A ECC Directors 10A Exercise Class 10A Toddler Group 12:30P Lydia Circle 6:30P Cub Scouts 7P Boy Scouts Com 7p Miriam Circle	8 11A XYZ - Chelsea 11A Staff Meeting 5:30P Bible Study	9 7:45A Church at Prayer 8A SrPastors' Group 6:15P Handbells Practice 7P Choir Practice 7P Elizabeth Circle	10 9:30 A SewNSews	11
19 Heritage Sunday 10A Worship <i>Baptism & New Members</i> 11:15A Chicken Pie Luncheon	20 3:30P ECC Music First 6P Cabinet 6:30P Boy Scouts 6:30P Mission Ministries 7P Connection Team 7P Worship Committee	21 7A Prayer 10A Exercise Class 10A Toddler Group 5:30P Parent Coalition	22 11A Staff Meeting 5:30P Bible Study	23 7:45A Church at Prayer 8A Sr Pastors' Group 10A PW Coordinating 6:15P Handbells Practice 7P Choir Practice	24 Church office closed	25 126 th Anniversary First Presbyterian Church
26 10A Worship <i>Officer Installation</i>	27 Memorial Day	28 Summer Office Hours Begin 7A Prayer 9:30A Carillon Mailing 10A Exercise Class 10A Toddler Group 6:30P Cub Scouts	29 11A Staff Meeting 5:30P Bible Study	30 7:45A Church at Prayer 8A Sr Pastors' Group 6:15P Handbells Practice 7P Choir Practice	31	

May 2019

Volume 26

Issue 5

The Carillon is a free monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church of Battle Creek 111
Capital Avenue, NE 269.964.3700 firstpresbc.org

HERITAGE SUNDAY

May 19, 2019

Church Family Chicken Pie Luncheon

Fellowship Hall following Worship

RSVP to the Church office

God's Promise: I Am With You Through The Generations