

NOVEMBER
2019

Battle Creek, MI 49017

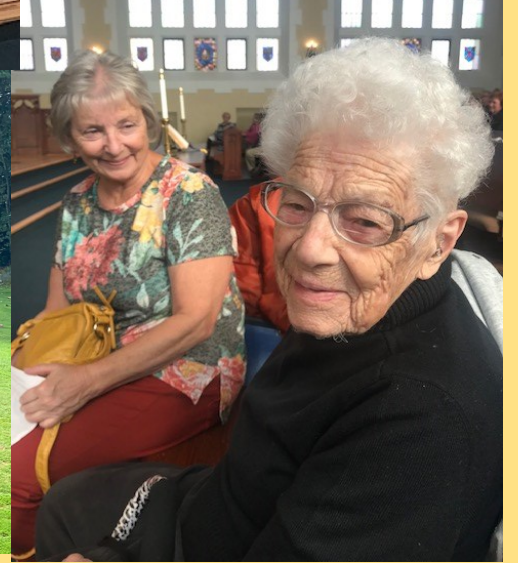
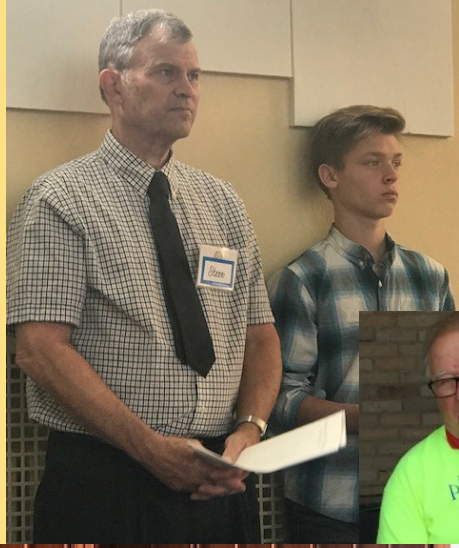
111 Capital Avenue N.E.

THE CARILLON

firstpresbcb.org

269.964.3700

269.964.3700





From Our Lead Pastor

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us (2 Corinthians 9:11 NRSV).

Dear Friends:

When we become Christians our giving has a new motivation. We are called to give generously and with joy as a fruit of the Spirit's life within us.

For a three-week period in November, we will be exploring Paul's teaching on Christian giving as found in 2 Corinthians 8 & 9. Join us in worship starting November 3 as we begin our new series called *The Generosity of Giving*.

At the conclusion of this series on *The Generosity of Giving* 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 17, 2019.

Yours in Christ,


Jeff



From Our Associate Pastor

For many years I've advised people to celebrate the fall and winter holidays in whatever way feels most comfortable after the loss of a significant family member. This year, I'm right there, trying to honor Thanksgiving and prepare for Christmas by focusing on the spiritual lessons and traditions, understanding that my pain is private but it's limiting my frivolity. "As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD" (Joshua 24:15) and not get too caught up in festivities. I hope this is a happy and merry time for you.

As a church family, we give thanks for financial blessings through our "Generosity of Giving". We continue seeking to "grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus" (2 Peter 3:18), and we remember the great commandment: Love God and your neighbor- and everyone is your neighbor! With great hope we wait for the second coming of Christ. Because of that I remind you: God Loves You and So Do I!



Pat Weatherwax

STEWARDSHIP SERIES: THE GENEROSITY OF GIVING

November 3	(1) EXPRESSING GENEROSITY	2 Cor 8:1-9
November 10	(2) PRACTICING GENEROSITY	2 Cor 8:10-24
November 17	(3) PROMOTING GENEROSITY	2 Cor 9:1-15

ADVENT SERIES: IN THOSE DAYS

December 1	(1) A DECREE WENT OUT	Luke 2:1-4
December 8	(2) NO PLACE FOR THEM	Luke 2:5-7
December 15	(3) AN ANGEL OF THE LORD	Luke 2:8-14
December 22	(4) THERE WERE SHEPHERDS	Luke 2:8, 15-20

Presbyterian Women's Christmas Tea



Our annual PW Christmas Tea will take place on Saturday, December 14th at 2PM in the Church Sanctuary. The theme for this year is "Love Carved in Stone— Words of Love Through Music". Our special guest artist will be Jean Watson Roberts, who goes by Jean Watson when performing.

Jean Watson is a classically trained violinist, singer, songwriter and arranger who has been recording Christian songs since 2003. She enjoys sharing the message of God's love through her music.

Locally, Jean plays the violin in the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. She also travels throughout the United States, Ireland and the United Kingdom where she performs a full concert schedule. She was named "Female Praise and Worship Artist USA" by the UK New Christian Music Alliance in 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. She hosts a daily inspirational radio show on UCB Radio in Ireland where her voice is heard worldwide. She recently returned from a concert tour in Ireland and also recorded a Christmas CD.

Save the date: December 14th. Come and enjoy Jean's special message of faith through her music. Plan to stay after the performance for refreshments.



*During This
Time of Loss*

Even as we mourn their passing, we offer prayers of thanks for the lives of these members

Beulah Hankey, a member since 1949 died on September 25th.

Richard Taylor, a member since 1961 passed away on September 29th

Edith Walsh, a member since June 1994 died on October 8th

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



Thanksgiving
Special Offering

people to resources in the community. Please consider making a monetary gift to this valuable community resource.

THE DEACONS' CORNER

For 50 years, average Americans have come together to fight hunger in exceptional ways through the **CROP Hunger Walk**. This year, a goal of having 50 First Pres walkers and/or 50 Donations was set to recognize this milestone of helping to make a dent in the daily struggle that others must endure. Thanks to you - we EXCEEDED our goal - 67 people DONATED a total of \$2,256.00; 25% of our total - \$634.00 will stay in Battle Creek to support local agencies; the remaining \$1,902.00 will be used to impact needs around the globe...for example - \$1,000.00 can provide a pump so a community has access to clean water and the training to use and maintain it. If you donated - THANK YOU! If you walked - THANK YOU! If you offered your Prayers - THANK YOU! With the resources at our disposal- hunger should NOT be a problem- but we know that isn't the case. We will continue to do our part in tackling this unacceptable situation. Kathy Baker & Finley McRae, **CROP** Walk Coordinators

Birthday cards are being sent out each month to members of 1st Church. Armed forces personnel will be receiving their 1st Church cards, with well wishes, by Veterans Day. Finley McRae announced that the Thanksgiving gift cards have been purchased for over 22 families who will receive a \$35.00 gift card and any family over five members will receive an additional \$15.00 gift card. Food will be purchased by the end of October. November 24th is set to pack the Thanksgiving boxes and the 25th for families to pick them up. Thank you to the congregation for donating food to the Franklin Food Center--over 25 bags this month! Keep up the good work!! All of our college students, who are leaving home to attend college will be receiving their "care packages" by the end of October reports Kathy Baker. Thank you! See you next month- God Bless. Submitted by Amy Rosa



Sign up by November 1st for the Tuesday,
November 5th trip to Lansing and the
**R.E. OLDS TRANSPORTATION
MUSEUM**

...and next....

On Monday, December 2nd we will travel
to Eaton Rapids for a holiday luncheon at



RSVP to church office by November 18th!

Family Game Night

Everyone who's been coming out has had a lot of fun. Time for YOU to join us. There are several games going on and some people started working on a puzzle. Our next game night will be Wednesday, November 6th at the Youth Center. We'll get started at 6pm and wrap up around 8pm. Feel free to bring any favorite games and snacks when you come. This event is open to the young and young at heart. You'll have lots of fun.

Volunteer Vibe

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

~~Volunteers desired for **St Thomas Saturday Breakfast Program on the 5th Saturday, November 30.** Please use the sign up sheet in the main all.

~~Nursery volunteers are needed to help in our crib and walker nursery, With enough helpers you would only be needed every other month. Sign- up sheet available or call the church office.

~~HELP! We need cookies 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.

~~The Discipleship Ministry Team seeks 19 people to help write a FirstPresBC advent devotional using the Gospel of Luke, one chapter each day. Sample and guidelines are available. Please contact **Pastor Pat, ASAP.**

~~Substitutes are needed for the **Franklin Food Pantry.** Please sign up on sheet in main hall .

~~Early Childhood Connection (ECC) programs: **Music First, Toddler Playgroup** and **Parent Coalition** all meet at First Pres and have volunteer opportunities. See the Mission Ministry Team article outlining the volunteer job descriptions in this issue of the Carillon.

~~ Want to know what other volunteer assistance we need? Go to the church website, firstpresbc.org, and click on "SERVE" or contact Lisa Brown (968-2020) or Jan Emery (979-4734) and they will be happy to help you with it.

Dear Church Family,

Many of you know that our 9 year old grandson Brady has been fighting leukemia since February. Warm thanks for all you support and prayers, and often asking how he is doing.

Brady's treatment plan is going well. He is in the "home stretch", a 2-1/2 year treatment phase called long term maintenance. He was excited to return to school on October 16th. The goal is that in 2-1/2 years he will be cancer free.

Even though you will no longer see his name on the weekly prayer list, please continue to pray for our "warrior" and his family. Do not hesitate to ever ask us how Brady is doing!

In his love, **Jim & Karen Rich**

I just finished reading this edition (of the Carillon). WOW! Filled with all kinds of valuable information. Please give my thanks to all for their continuing great work at First Pres.

Blessings to All, **Ed (Scheinfelt)**



VISION SUMMIT

For six weeks, our church has participated in a "Vision Summit," an attempt to catch a glimpse of God's preferred future for First Presbyterian Church. Through an exciting sermon series focusing on scriptural mountain top experiences, thoughtful small group discussions, reading *The Scrappy Church*, and much prayer, we took a hard look at where we are now and what God may be calling us to do moving forward. A congregational survey also gave everyone the opportunity to express their concerns, ideas, hopes and dreams for this church.

Now we will begin using the information gathered during the Vision Summit to determine what the next steps will be. Please continue to pray for this church as we all seek God's direction for our future.

Survey Results (listed in order of most selected)

As you remember your entire experience at First Presbyterian Church, when were you most alive, motivated and excited?

1. Worship service participation
2. Small group study/fellowship
3. Community ministry tied with Serving on boards/ministry teams

What do you value most about First Presbyterian Church? What activities or ways of life are most important to you?

1. Fellowship
2. Sense of belonging
3. Outreach ministries

What are your deepest longings for the future of First Presbyterian Church?

1. Increased participation of families/youth
2. A church that exists to serve others
3. A diverse, spiritually vibrant congregation

NOTES FROM THE OCTOBER MEETING OF SESSION

Carl McCune, Clerk of Session

A motion from the Worship Ministry Team prevailed to authorize Communion on:

- | | |
|--|--|
| a. January 5, 2020: Intinction | h. July 5, 2020: Intinction (Fellowship Hall) |
| b. February 2, 2020: Trays | i. August 2, 2020: Pre-filled (Retreat Center) |
| c. March 1, 2020: Trays | j. September 6, 2020: Intinction (Fellowship Hall) |
| d. April 5, 2020: Trays | k. October 4, 2020 Trays |
| e. April 9, 2020 (Maundy Thursday) | l. November 1, 2020 Intinction |
| f. May 3, 2020: No communion, Youth Sunday | |
| g. June 7, 2020: Trays | |

Membership Update A motion prevailed to receive Denise Rust into membership by reaffirmation of faith. She will be welcomed during a future worship service. The deaths of Beulah Hankey on September 25, 2019, Richard Taylor on September 29, 2019 and Edith Walsh on October 8, 2019 were reported. Current Active Membership is 303.

Presbytery of Lake Michigan A report from the September 14 Presbytery Meeting at Benton Harbor Fairplain noted that Per Capita is being raised to \$35.20 in 2020 which will be a \$3.00 increase over that of 2019. Also, several churches in our Presbytery are beginning a process called the Vital Congregations Initiative which addresses issues similar to those in the Vision Summit Series we are doing.

Associate Pastor Pastor Pat reported that the Stephen Ministry Consortium is being discontinued because of the difficulty in getting enough people interested in being trained. She is considering alternatives and is interested in any suggestions.

Lead Pastor Pastor Jeff reported that the Ministry Advisory Council is reviewing the Vision Summit surveys and planning for the forum which will be held after the worship service on October 20.

The next regular Session meeting will be November 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor.

A MESSAGE FROM JOHN OURENSMA

A few days after my recital this past Sunday afternoon, October 20, my heart and mind are still full of the rich experience it was to be back among you all and share in the music celebrating that wonderful instrument. As I said during the program, playing a recital at a church somewhere where I don't know anyone is in ways much easier and less emotional than playing at a church where I once served, let alone with so many people so dear to me. So it truly was a deeply moving experience to be there with you all for this unique event. And, as several of us noted, it seemed like a reunion of sorts - so many folks coming back together to celebrate the instrument as well as our blessed time together when I was working among you as your Director of Music. They were great years of satisfaction, blessings and challenges, and I'm amazed to think that I left Battle Creek a little over twenty years ago! I was honored to be asked back to do this celebratory recital and so deeply touched by the presence of so many of you. It truly was a rewarding afternoon for us all! My great regret is that there wasn't time to adequately catch up with each of you - I realize I may have only had 10-15 seconds with some of you, given the press of so many folks to greet. I regret the brevity of those encounters but am grateful for those few moments with a good number of you. Please know how much you all mean to me.

Finally, my sincere thanks to Carrie Hoglen and the Worship Team for the invitation and overall organization of the event, the reception, the flowers and all that goes into these sorts of things. To the entire church staff for their kind support and tolerance of all the many hours of practice and disrupting the peace and quiet of the office suite! Thanks particularly to Mary and Jenny in the office for their support role in all of this, and especially to Mary for all the publicity arrangements, program, posters and preparing the slide show. To Tim for fussing with the temperamental heating system and the chancel set-up changes and complications. To Doug and others for running sound and projection. To Pastor Pat for her kind welcome, invocation and introduction at the program. To Jodine for kindly sharing the instrument, practice time and kind support. To Martin for assembling a remarkable series of archival pictures, programs and memorabilia - some of which I've NEVER seen before! And again, thanks to you all for turning out, inviting friends to join you, listening, singing so amazingly well (wow), and making the day so very special! God's richest blessings to you all.

John O

Birthday Card Shower

Ginny Wilber turns 103 years young on
November 26th!

Daughters Chris (Owel) and Sue (Healy) say
that she will be pleased to receive your
greetings at her home at
302 Cornell Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49017.



Susan Oakes 11/1
Justin LaFleur 11/1
Jim Ritter 11/3
Laura Greenman 11/4
Sally Roberts 11/6
Winnie Keedy 11/6
Marie Curie 11/7
Tony Lupini 11/7
Michael Hayward 11/8
James Spindler 11/9
Sydney Wenzler 11/11
Chris Owel 11/12
Katelyn Allen 11/13
Steve Janz 11/14
Charlotte Hagist 11/16
Annettie Tribbett 11/19
Elizabeth Aimesbury 11/19
Jackie Inglett 11/20
Georgia Hammons 11/22
Carolyn Rex 11/22
Dena Haas 11/23
Jan Barney 11/23
Virginia Wilber 11/26
Jeff Carlson 11/26
David Rost 11/26
Lori Kneeland 11/27
Alexandria Smith 11/28
Bill Bauer 11/30

WHO'S ON THE COVER?

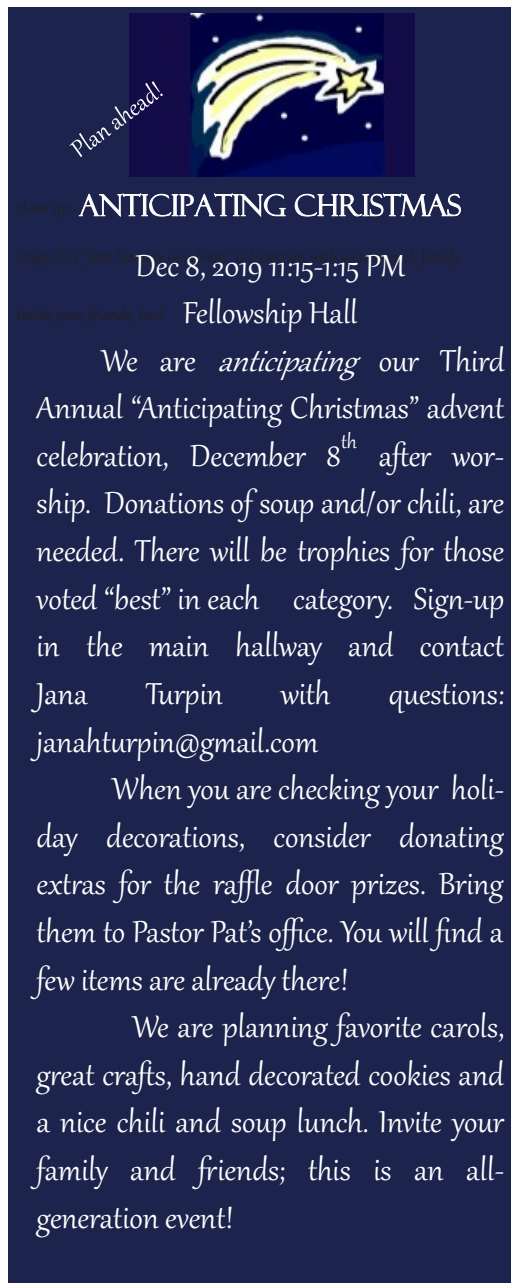
(start at top right and go clockwise)

Nancy Bartlett is pictured at a farewell luncheon in her honor on September 27th in the Parlor. **Doug McCune, Josh Liechty and Steve Owel** are pictured at Cornwell's Turkeyville during the Youth Group's Haunted Adventure. **Kathy Baker, Chris Owel and Carrie Hoglen** during their Praise Band song on Oct 20. **Marcus Peever** at the Youth Group Haunted Adventure outing. **Sue Healy and Ginny Wilber** in church on October 20. **Alex Lee, Jim Hoglen, Tom Till and Loren Rex** played golf in the Scramble Golf outing in Detroit, to benefit the Second Mile Center. The Second Mile Center was delighted to have representation from First Pres. **John Ourensma** performing at his recital celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Dobson organ. **Steve Owel and Marcus Peever** serving as ushers.

(center picture) **Arden Hetletvedt**, a First Pres "Adult Kid", is pictured in First Pres logo apparel.

STEPHEN MINISTRY AND CONGREGATIONAL CARE

While rejoicing over many faithful years, we have regretfully decided not to accept any new Stephen Ministry Care Receivers or start any new training classes for the foreseeable future. New methods of member care will be introduced in 2020. Please continue to care for the sick, dying, grieving and people in transition that you know and worship with.



Plan ahead!

ANTICIPATING CHRISTMAS

Dec 8, 2019 11:15-1:15 PM

Fellowship Hall

We are *anticipating* our Third Annual "Anticipating Christmas" advent celebration, December 8th after worship. Donations of soup and/or chili, are needed. There will be trophies for those voted "best" in each category. Sign-up in the main hallway and contact Jana Turpin with questions: janahturpin@gmail.com

When you are checking your holiday decorations, consider donating extras for the raffle door prizes. Bring them to Pastor Pat's office. You will find a few items are already there!

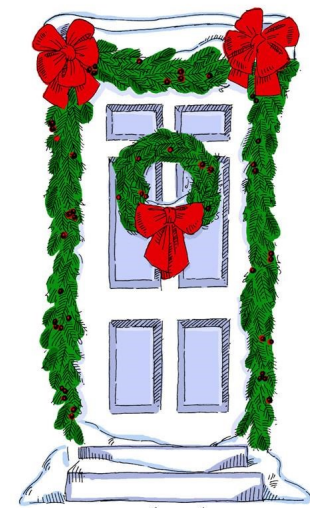
We are planning favorite carols, great crafts, hand decorated cookies and a nice chili and soup lunch. Invite your family and friends; this is an all-generation event!

FRIENDS ON THE MOVE

Our long-time members and friends, the Bartletts, have moved to Texas. Their new address is:

Larry and Nancy Bartlett
7450 Stonebrook Parkway #3301
Frisco, TX 75034

If you have a change in address, phone or email, please remember to let the church office know! Email office@firstpresbc.org or call 269.964.3700.



Holiday Greens Sale

Remember to order before the
November 17th deadline!

Place your order with a youth
group member
or
write in your order on any of the
forms located in the Parlor and
on bulletin boards
or
call the church office
Monday– Friday from 9A—4P
269.964.3700

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 24th
and the following Monday and
Tuesday during office hours at the
church.

**Benefitting junior and senior high
summer mission experiences**

Thank you!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH OUR PARTNERS IN MISSION MINISTRY

There have been questions about volunteer needs and expectations for our Mission partners' programs held here at First Pres. The Mission Ministry Team provided these descriptions for you.

Early Childhood Connection (ECC) Programs:

Music First – Monday, 3:30 -4:30PM - Fellowship Hall

One greeter outside, one greeter at the elevator and another greeter at the elevator on the lower level.

Check in and check out books for the 'Raising A Reader' bags.

At the end of the program, one person goes around with the hand sanitizer, another passes out the snack (which they provide) and the other person passes out the little cups of water. Then they have a story which the family coaches do. Enjoy the children as they participate in the program.

Toddler Playgroup – Learning to Play, Tuesday, 10:00 – 11:00AM Youth Center

One greeter outside, one greeter inside.

Check in and check out books for the 'Raising A Reader' bags

At the end of playtime, one person does the hand sanitizer, the other passes out the snack and then both pass out water. Then they have a story read by the family coach. The volunteers help wipe off the toys with sanitizer wipes. Have conversation and enjoy the children and moms.

Parent Coalition – 3rd Tuesday - 5:30 – 7:30PM Fellowship Hall

One volunteer does the meal, the team of volunteers arrive at 5:00PM to assist with any last minute things that need to be done.

At 5:30PM the volunteers serve the food and beverage from the buffet table to the parent(s) and their child/children.

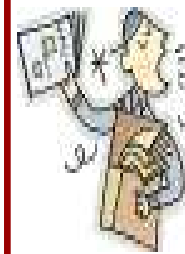
6:00PM – finished serving, volunteers eat, serving table is cleared and cleanup begins! Food that was not eaten is divided into baggies and small containers that are given to the families. Cooking utensils are washed. Serving dishes are put away and the kitchen is spotless again! Usually volunteers are ready to leave around 6:30, 6:45 at the latest!

Volunteer as much as your schedule allows – 1x, 2x a month or more!

Other Mission Ministry Partners, **Charitable Union, CityLinC, Women's Life Recovery,** and **SAFE Place** volunteers do a variety of things from preparing and serving a meal in the Parlor, Fellowship Hall or the Retreat Center to assisting with clothing distributions. Days, times and activities vary. We never know what their needs or ideas might be; always a new adventure!

Good fellowship and many blessings come with volunteering. Please sign up on the sheet in the hall and you will be contacted about what partnership(s) you would enjoy being a volunteer with.

-Jean Parker



OFF THE PRESS

It's November again which means it's time for the 6th Annual Off the Pres Mini Golf Championship.

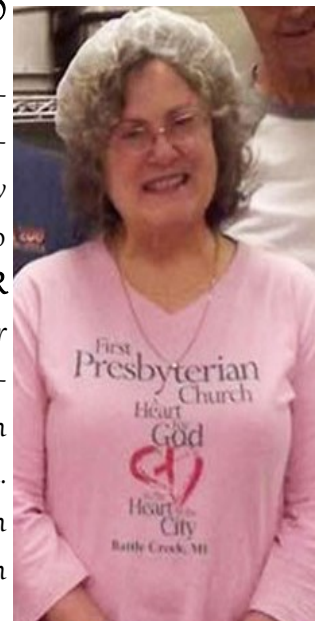
Eighteen of the craziest mini-golf holes you've ever seen. The course makes it's way through all four floors of the church. This year's event will be Sunday November 10. We will tee off at 3:30PM. This is open to all youth and their friends. It is also open to parents and anyone else who wants to try it out. Come on out!

There will be a Caravan meeting on Sunday, November 3rd right after church to go over some details about the trip. Please plan to attend if you want to come on the next Caravan.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LOGO APPAREL

With the holidays fast approaching, now is the time to **PLACE YOUR ORDER** for

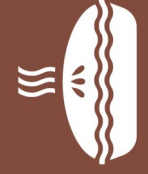
First Presbyterian Church logo apparel. There's much to choose from including caps,




sweatshirts, aprons, tote bags and t-shirts in many colors (including the pretty pink shown on our model, Marie Davy, pictured above.) A flyer itemizing sizes and prices is posted in the main hallway or call Jim Kerner at 962-2960 to order.

FirstPres Calendar

N



NOVEMBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
						 Time to turn back your clocks!

3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10A Worship	3:30P CIR	7A Pray for the Church	9A PW Bible Study	7:45A Church at Prayer	9:30A Sew N Sews	8A CPR/AED Training
11:15A Sunday School	3:30P ECC Music First	10A Exercise Class	11A Staff Meeting	8A Sr Pastors' Prayer Group		
1:00P Deaf Fellowship	6:30P Boy Scouts	10A Toddlers Group	6P Game Night	11A Women Who Care		
		10:30A XYZ - Lansing		6:15P Handbells Rehearsal		
		6P Cub Scout		7:30P Choir Practice		



10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10A Worship	3:30P CIR	7A Pray for the Church	11A Staff Meeting	7:45A Church at Prayer	10A SAFE Place	
11:15A Sunday School	3:30P ECC Music First	10A Exercise Class	5:30P Bible Study	8A Sr Pastors' Prayer Group		
1:00P Deaf Fellowship	6:30P Deacons	10A Toddlers Group		4P Elizabeth Circle		
3:30P OffThe Pres Golf	6:30P Boy Scouts	12:30P Lydia Circle		6:15P Handbells Rehearsal		
	7P Session	6:30P Cub Scouts				
		7P Miriam Circle				

VETERANS DAY



17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10A Worship	3:30P ECC Music First	7A Pray for the Church	11A Staff Meeting	7:45A Church at Prayer	9:30A Sew N Sews	
1:00P Deaf Fellowship	3:30P CIR	10A Exercise Class	5:30P Bible Study	8A Sr Pastors' Prayer Group	10A SAFE Place	
	6P Cabinet	10A Toddlers Group		10A PW Coordinating Team		
	6:30P Boy Scouts	5:30P Parent Coalition		6:15P Handbells Rehearsal		
	7P Mission Ministry Team			7P Men's Fellowship		
	7P Worship Ministry Team			7:30P Choir Practice		



24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Holiday Greens Pickup in Parlor	8A Holiday Baskets Pickup	7A Pray for the Church	11A Staff Meeting			
10A Worship	3:30P ECC Music First	9:30A Carillon Mailing				
11:15A Sunday School	3:30P CIR	10A Exercise Class				
1:00P Deaf Fellowship	6:30P Boy Scouts	10A Toddlers Group				
	7P Connection Team	6:30P Cub Scouts				



CHURCH OFFICES
CLOSED

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS BACK

While we've enjoyed our Summit small groups, it's time to return to our Sunday education opportunities.

ADULTS meet in Rooms 12, 14 and the Chapel. Watch the bulletin for class titles.

YOUTH, grades 6 to 12 meet at 11:15 in Room 16, downstairs. There's a New Testament survey course designed for teens and tweens ready to go. Parents, please consider this an important activity for your middle and high schoolers

NEW DIRECTORY COMING

The Rumor is TRUE!!! This time next year we will have in our hands a new photo/phone directory – a tool to help us connect names and faces of our First Pres family.

SAVE the week of April 27 through May 2 for your personal photo appointment.

Look for more details on this exciting opportunity in future Carillons and all church mailings. Questions can be directed to Kathy Baker, Photo Directory Coordinator.

Volume 26

November 2019

Issue 10

The Carillon is a free monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church

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