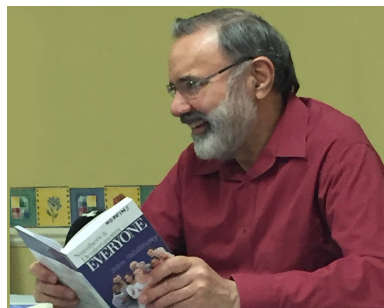


First Presbyterian Church


The Carillon

Volume 27
Issue 2



111 Capital Ave NE
Battle Creek, MI
firstpresbc.org
269.964.3700



A
Heart
for
God

in the
Heart of the
City



From our Lead Pastor

Dear Friends:

For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven
(Ecclesiastes 3:1 NLT).

As most of you know, Sandy and I have set my retirement for December 1st of this year. We have been here nearly sixteen years. As the saying goes, “time flies when you are having fun.” We have certainly enjoyed our time here. We will miss you dearly.

But the retirement date is still several months away. There will be opportunities to share together, reflect and reminisce. There will also be plenty of opportunities to do good ministry together.

May God richly bless you!

Yours in Christ,

Jeffrey S. Carlson



From our Associate Pastor

As a child growing up in family-filled neighborhoods, we had many ways to decide who was “IT”, got to be the leader, or have the first turn. My favorite way was “bubble gum, bubble gum, in a dish, how many pieces do you wish?” My brother liked catching a bat, alternating hands, and whoever got theirs on the top had first choice. Others?

One, two, three, ‘NOT IT!’

Age before beauty, and of course,

Seniority (or majority) rules.

Jeff Carlson and I are in the middle of figuring out who “goes first”. For us, for now, it appears that “seniority rules” and Jeff will retire before me. But, I cannot assume the Lead Pastor role. Those are not my gifts for ministry. Rather, I have asked the session to adjust my terms of call for 2020 to *reduce* my available hours, so that I can be more helpful to my spouse, daughter and grandson. Transitions in my family and *my* quickly approaching retirement age are keeping me from being the energizer bunny I once was. I need to slow down.

Instead, I’m very interested in “equipping the saints for the work of ministry” (Ephes. 4:12) – assisting you members to provide care and education within our congregation, and help the transitions to be easier. So in this year of exploration of our future, let’s lean on the promise of Ecclesiastes 3:11: “God has made everything suitable for its time”.

And, maybe, TAG, YOU’RE IT!?

God loves you and so do I,

Pat Weatherwax

NEW SERMON SERIES

Alive in the Spirit

A SERIES ON THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

- February 2 (1) INTRODUCTION Acts 1:1-11
February 9 (2) PENTECOST Acts 2:1-41
February 16 (3) ADVERSITY TO FAITH Acts 4:1-22
February 23 (4) THE SEVEN Acts 6:1-7
March 1 (5) FROM PERSECUTOR TO APOSTLE Acts 9:1-19
March 8 (6) LOOKING UP WHEN YOU ARE FEELING DOWN Acts 13:13-15
March 15 (7) THE APOSTLE'S MESSAGE Acts 13:16-41
March 22 (8) THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL Acts 15:1-19
March 29 (9) NEW TERRITORY Acts 16:6-15
April 5 (10) PAUL IN ROME Acts 28:17-31



On February 2, 2020 we will observe the Lord's Supper. Like World Communion Sunday, we will be celebrating using communion wine in addition to grape juice. The grape juice will be light in color and the cups in the inner circle of the tray. The communion wine will be dark red in color and the cups in the outer rings of the tray.



Ash Wednesday is on February 26th and again this year we look forward to joining our friends at Pennfield Presbyterian Church for worship at 7:00PM on that day. Pennfield Presbyterian Church is located at 7979 St. Mary's Lake Road.

ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 16, 2020

The Annual Meeting of the congregation will take place following Sunday Service on February 16 in Fellowship Hall. Items of business will include the congregation voting on the terms of call for the Pastor and Associate Pastor.

A Time of Remembering

Members and significant others who entered eternal life in 2019 will be remembered at our Annual Meeting on Feb 16, 2020. If you have a name that you want us to include, please contact the church office or note it on the friendship pad on an upcoming Sunday.

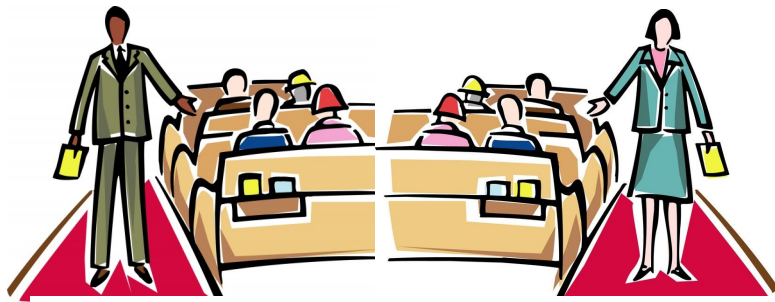
Membership Directories will be available at the Annual Meeting. Please check your information!



A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. We will dedicate the OGHS offering on Palm Sunday, April 5.



We have an abundance of lovely prayer shawls to share with those who are living with some struggle. Find them on the second floor, main hallway. There's a sheet to note who will receive the shawl.



USHERS UPDA

Happy New Year!! There have been several questions brought to our (ushers') attention and we'd like to try and update you as we start 2020!

Who are the current ushers? The new list of ushers welcomes some new faces! Mary Ellen Hayward, Mike Hayward and David Rost will be joining us. Welcome to the fun! The list also includes: Bob Bullard (our fearless leader), Bill Winslow, LeRoy Miller, Dale Dittmer, Joy Miller, Bruce Davy, Brian Trainor, Kyle Trainor, Lorena Trainor, Sue Stetler, Steve Owel, Jeff Wolf, Bruce Medaugh and Arden Hetletvedt.

Who is on duty? Bob Bullard puts a calendar together with 3 groups of ushers to rotate on a 3 week schedule. If one of us has a conflict, we try to work it out with someone from a different Sunday list.

What do the ushers do? Along with preparing the sanctuary before service, greeting, handing out bulletins and participating in the collection we are available to offer support should anyone need it. Many of us participated in the church supported safety training and work with the safety committee by wearing the "walkie talkie" equipment. This allows us to communicate with others in the church should it be needed.

Speaking of bulletins, why do we run out? The office makes copies for each Sunday based on the previous year's attendance on the same date. They also look at any weather conditions that could have affected the attendance the previous year or the upcoming Sunday. In addition, they consider any special events like a baptism, and then add another 10 to the number. Making this estimate is challenging but the office gets pretty close.

How can you help? If you are interested in being on a substitution list, let an usher know. If we have the wonderful opportunity to have a very full service, please be willing to share your bulletin with someone sitting near you. After service, if your bulletin has not been written on, please leave it at the exits on the tables. The extra bulletins are given to our members who are not able to attend.

If you need us, let us know!

Weather Alert



If it's necessary to cancel worship or other programs at the church, notices will be broadcast on WWMT-TV Channel 3 & WBCN 95.3FM

ROSES go out to

...Mary Burg for preparing our coffee time each week, and those who provide the snacks.

...our Sunday monitor watchers, safety lead, parking lot and door greeters and ushers.

...those who provided wonderful hospitality to the Carolyn Warner family after her funeral on the icy January 11, 2020, especially to Marie and Bruce Davy.

....Doug McCune, for arranging the Family Game Nights.

...members of Miriam Circle, Sue Hutson, Sally Gubitz, Kathy Sawchuk, Jean Parker, Cindy Koerner, Marla Colburn and Sue Keitel for assisting with the Safe Place Christmas Party.

....the team of Mary Burg, Chris and Steve Owel, Marla Colburn, Loretta Gold, Jean Parker and Julie Chapman for providing the meal each month for the Parent Coalition of the E.C.C.

....Mission Ministry Team members, Carol Gault, Sally Gubitz, Arden Hetletvedt, Jean Parker, and Loretta Gold for the delicious food for the Charitable Union Staff Christmas Luncheon.



First Pres presents

ON MARCH 1



UP THE CREEK

VOLUNTEER VIBE



OFF THE PRESS

- Adult volunteers are needed to help in the nursery. Sign up for a Sunday or two on the sheet in the main hall.
- Volunteers are needed to visit our members who are home-bound or in care centers. Talk to Pastor Pat for an easy visitation guide.
- Our next "First Pres Presents" will bring back a local favorite, "Up the Creek" Jazz Ensemble, on Sunday, March 1, at 4PM. We will need several volunteers to assist with delivering posters, ushering, and the "meet and greet" reception afterward. Please contact Kathy Baker, 964-6642, or Marge Weil, 962-4521 if you can help.
- 12 Volunteers desired for the St. Thomas Saturday Breakfast Program on the next 5th Saturday, February 29th. Sign-up sheet in main hall. Our last 5th Saturday is May 30th.
- Volunteer sign-up sheets will be up February 2nd for those interested in helping with the Member Photo Directory. Please consider these opportunities and contact Kathy Baker with questions:
 - Making appointments (at home on your own computer and/or Sundays after service) for those without computer access.
 - Transportation for those needing help to get to their picture appointment.
 - Helping out at the Youth Center on picture days.
 - Filling out photo cards—requires good penmanship.
 - Proof reading.
 - Other tasks that may come up.
- Volunteers are needed as Parking Lot Greeters on Sunday mornings. Contact Larry Turpin if interested at lturpin103@aol.com
- Volunteers are needed to provide prepared finger-foods for the Sunday morning coffee hour. Simply leave in the kitchenette next to the Parlor on Sunday morning.

"Volunteer Vibe" is a monthly feature from the Connection Team, focusing on places where volunteers are needed and who to contact to offer your services. Contact Jan Emery Barney at 979-4734 or jyreme@aol.com to have your volunteer request in the next Carillon.

On Saturday February 1st we will be meeting at the church to assemble all the Super Bowl Subs that were ordered. It should take about an hour. The subs will be available for pick up on Sunday the 2nd just in time for the big game.

On Saturday February 8th, we'll head over to the Arboretum to watch the cardboard sled races. Meet at church at 12:45 or at the Arboretum at 1:00pm. The fun starts at 2PM. Feel free to build your own sled if you want to.

On Saturday February 15th I'll need youth to meet me at church at noon to get the refreshments ready for the Annual Meeting.

On Sunday, February 23rd there will be a Caravan 2020 meeting at 5pm at the Youth Center. We will be going over the dates, location, and possible work projects for the trip. Please plan to attend even if you are not sure you are going. Dinner will be provided. Please watch the bulletin for other events coming up.



"That's the last time I tell the youth group to help themselves to the church refrigerator!"

A letter from Shirley Henry



Christmas 2019

Dear Friends and Family,

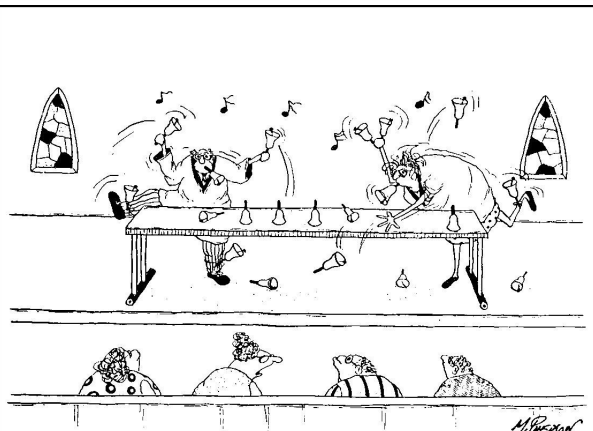
Holiday greetings from Indiana! I hope you are all healthy and happy. For those of you who don't already know, I am now living with my niece Michelle, her husband, Roger and their two children, Michael and Lydia in their beautiful home. I have such good care here and good food too. They keep a nice supply of ice cream! I have my own quarters and also enjoy sitting in the sunroom that overlooks the pond as well as watching the birds that come to feed. Many weekends I attend church with them which is where Roger works. I am also getting to try new restaurants in the Carmel area. Most Sundays, their oldest, Andrew and his new wife Brooke come for dinner. I have even enjoyed a visit with a cousin who lives in a retirement center not too far from here.

I have enjoyed getting cards and letters from you all as well! Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Love,
Shirley

*Thank you
for keeping me
in your prayers*

HMM, LLC.



"The rest of the bell choir is out with the flu."

february BIRTHDAYS

Sue Stetler 2/1

Grant Maichele 2/1

Bonnie Martens 2/4

Charles Lindbergh 2/4

Linda Tuls 2/5

Betty Robins 2/5

Kyle Trainor 2/6

Kay Scofield 2/7

Vickie Grant 2/7

Bob Bursley 2/8

Donna Bidelman 2/11

Thomas Edison 2/11

Abe Lincoln 2/12

Barb Smith 2/12

Eleanor Boston 2/14

Susan B. Anthony 2/15

Gretchen Bursley 2/16

Mary Koerner 2/16

Owen Van Winkle 2/18

Doug McCune 2/21

George Washington 2/22

Robin Firth 2/25

Thank you to my church family for the many prayers, cards, food and visits. It was all very much appreciated, I hope to be back in church soon.

Donna Bidelman

DEACONS' CORNER

The Deacons are on the road to help make the New Year a better place for all!!!

The Christmas Baskets were a great success. Thanks to Deacons Judy and Paul Yettaw for their leadership and to 1st Pres Congregation for their generosity to make Christmas brighter for those who needed some help. God Bless!

The Soup Kitchen, reported by Deacon Tim Hill is doing well with the aid of 1st Pres volunteers. Your work is gratefully appreciated. Keep up the good work!

The Food Pantry is going strong and Deacon Finley McRae encourages the Congregation to keep donating items such as fruit juices, canned fruits and vegetables, mac n cheese, and peanut butter.

St. Thomas volunteers are welcome to sign up for breakfast cooking and service beginning Feb. 1.

A special "THANK YOU" to Ruth Hetletvedt for the donation of her beautiful handmade birthday cards. The Congregation has enjoyed them immensely. Thank you and God Bless.

Submitted by Deacon Amy Rosa

ON THIS MONTH'S COVER: (Top right and clockwise) Carolyn O'Brien speaking on Albania. Rev. Leon Coleman III of First Salem Missionary Baptist Church and Leroy Miller; Diana and Tom Cole; Arden Hetletvedt resting between New Year's games; Ruth Hetletvedt, Jackie Wells, Loretta Gold, Josh, Carol and Liam Gault. Pastor Jeff with local pastors participating in pulpit exchange for Martin Luther King Day weekend. Dave Hopkins leads the Sunday school class on Romans.

MICHIGAN PILGRIMAGE

An amazing retreat weekend!



April 23-26, 2020
at the Sturgis,
Amigo Centre.
Check it out on
their website at
mppilgrimage.org. Or see Susan
Keitel or Pat Weatherwax.

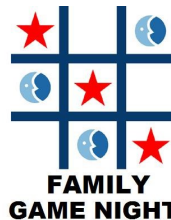
SUNDAY FLOWER DEDICATIONS



are open for
March 1 & 29
and April 26.
If you are in-
terested in
any of these
dates, let Kathy Medaugh know
at 269-832-2758 or by email at
kmedaugh1@aol.com.

GAME NIGHT CONTINUES TO BE A BIG HIT!

We are averaging
about 16 people
each month. If you
haven't come down
to check it out yet,
you definitely
should. The next game night will
be Wednesday February 5th. We
get started at about 6pm. We
will be starting a new puzzle this
month. Feel free to bring any
favorite games and snacks along.



Looking for news of
First Pres? We're on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/FirstPresBC/

"Like" our page so you can follow
our posts and share them with
your friends on Facebook!

Member DIRECTORY PREPARATION AND DATES

Does the church office have **your correct/current phone number and address**? You may give a single phone number OR a cell number for each person at your residence in the upcoming directory.

Sessions with the photographer will be scheduled online. **If you don't have access to a computer**, make sure to sign up on the "I NEED HELP MAKING A PHOTO APPOINTMENT" sheets that will be on elevator & Parlor bulletin boards starting February 2nd.

Appointment sign-ups will start on Monday, March 9 on the church website and on Sunday in the Parlor after Sunday service from March 15 running through April 26th.

Photo sessions will run April 28 through May 2. If you aren't able to make any of those dates, please contact Kathy Baker as soon as possible for other options!

The success of our directory will depend on everyone. See this month's **VOLUNTEER VIBE** about specific volunteer needs. Sign up sheets will be in the main hall starting February 2nd

•Please direct questions to
Kathy Baker 964-6642.

Mission Ministry Works

John 13:35 (NRSV) reminds us, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another". February is the month of Valentine's Day and always brings thoughts of love and friendship. The Mission Ministry Team is once again offering our congregation an opportunity to *put our love into action* with our "Soles for Souls" program. Together with our local mission partner, Charitable Union, we are hoping to help with a need in our community for steel-toed work boots.



For more than a decade, Charitable Union has been distributing gently used steel-toed work boots in coordination with local manufacturing facilities. In 2019, Charitable Union provided 886 pairs of such boots to local community members needing them as a condition of employment. Without these safety boots, many factory and manufacturing jobs are simply unobtainable. With the boots, men and women are able to work and provide for themselves and their families.

Because local manufacturing has expanded rapidly in recent years, there are more new jobs and increased demand for steel-toed boots. It is no longer possible to meet the need with "recycled" boots, so the Charitable Union stock must be supplemented with purchased new boots.

Any size gift is helpful and appreciated, but a \$55 donation ensures a new pair of steel-toed work boots to those who do not have the means for this work place necessity. If you would like to contribute to "Soles for Souls" please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church with "Soles for Souls" clearly indicated on the memo line. Special "Soles" envelopes may be found by the church entrances for your donations, which you may place in the offering plate or mail to the church office.

Thank you for your generous contributions and for being the "Help that brings Hope!"

It's also time to begin collecting new winter coats and snow pants for the **2020 Winter Coat Drive for Charitable Union**. The sales are on and new coats are needed for toddlers to teens. We will be collecting through March. Bring your purchase(s) to the Parlor Mission Corner. The coats will be stored and distributed in October.



Presbyterian Women are collecting **new socks and underwear** during the month of February as part of their mission outreach program. These items will also be given through the Charitable Union. All sizes and genders (men, women, boys, girls, toddlers) are needed. Please bring them to the Mission Center corner located in the Parlor.

Nichelle Wood's 16th birthday is coming up soon. Instead of gifts for herself, she would like to donate gifts to **Bronson Children's Hospital in Kalamazoo**. She is accepting toys, monetary donations, and other items. Lists will be posted on the main floor bulletin board with suggestions for each age group.



Donations will be accepted through March 15th and delivered on March 27th. Labeled donations may be left in the Parlor's Mission corner. "Thank you for all your kind donations. Have a blessed day!" Nichelle and Jackie

A Heart for God in the Heart of the City!

February 2020 Calendar

111 Capital Avenue NE 49017 269.964.3700 www.firstpresbc.org

1									
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday			
2  10A Worship 11A Christian Ed 1P Deaf Fellowship Super Bowl Sub Pickup!	3 3:30P ECC Music First 3:45P CIR Games 6:30P Boy Scouts	4 7A Prayer 10A Exercise Class 10A Toddlers' Group	5 11A Staff Meeting 6P GAME NIGHT	6 7:45A Church at Prayer 8A Sr. Pastors' Group 11A Women Who Care	7	8 12:45P Youth Card-board Sled Races			
9  10A Worship 11A Christian Ed 1P Deaf Fellowship 6P Praise Team	10 1P Property Com. 3:30P ECC Music First 3:45P CIR 6:30P Deacons 6:30P Boy Scouts 7P Session	11 7A Prayer 10A Exercise Class 10A Toddlers' Group 12:30P Lydia Circle 4P Miriam Circle 6:30P Cub Scouts	12 11A PEO 11A Staff Meeting 5:30P Bible Study	13 7:45A Church at Prayer 8A Sr. Pastors' Group 4P Elizabeth Circle	14 	15			
16 10A Worship 11A ANNUAL MEETING 1P Deaf Fellowship 6P Praise Team	17 CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED 3:30P ECC Music First 3:45P CIR 6P Cabinet 6:45P Mission Ministry 7P Worship Ministry	18 7A Prayer 10A Exercise Class 10A Toddlers' Group	19 11A Staff Meeting 5:30P Bible Study	20 7:45A Church at Prayer 8A Sr. Pastors' Group 7P Men's Fellowship	21	22 Youth: Annual Meeting setup			
23 10A Praise Worship 11A Christian Ed 1P Deaf Fellowship 5P Caravan Meeting	24 3:30P ECC Music First 3:45P CIR 7P Connection Team	25 7A Prayer 10A Exercise Class 10A Toddlers' Group	26 11A Staff Meeting  Ash Wednesday 7P Pennfield Presbyterian Church	27 7:45A Church at Prayer 8A Sr. Pastors' Group 10A PW Coordinating	28	29 			

GET READY FOR THE NEW MEMBER DIRECTORY

Make sure the church office gets any updates to your phone number(s), home address, or e-mail address. This is especially important as we prepare for our new membership photo directories coming in a few months. Drop off or send any updates to the church office at office@firstpresbc.org.

Check out the articles in this issue regarding picture appointments and opportunities to help out with the upcoming member photo directory.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION FEBRUARY 16TH

The Annual Meeting of the congregation will take place following Sunday Service on February 16 in Fellowship Hall. Items of business will include the congregation voting on the terms of call for the Pastor and Associate Pastor.

Members and significant others who entered eternal life in 2019 will be remembered at our Annual Meeting. If you have a name that you want us to include, please contact the church office or note it on the friendship pad on an upcoming Sunday.

THE CARILLON IS A FREE NEWSLETTER OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BATTLE CREEK

Deadline for the monthly Carillon is the 15th of the month preceding publication. Send any photos, announcements, or articles for consideration to office@firstpresbc.org.



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