

The Carillon

Volume 28 Issue 7



August 2021



First Presbyterian Church
Battle Creek, Michigan
firstpresbc.org

From Pastor Mike Wicks

Dear Friends,

Summer is upon us and plays havoc with both home and church schedule. Yet, that we may have things in order for the fall, we are pushing ahead with important transitional work in August. We will be having a World Café on August 16th at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Because we are Presbyterian, there will be treats...but the purpose is not in the snacks we eat but in the ideas we share. The focus of the café' will be our identity here at the First Presbyterian Church of Battle Creek. There will be very carefully thought-out questions presented and everyone will be seated at a card table of four people for the fifteen-minute discussion. Why would you want to show up for a fifteen minute discussion? Because there will be many of them. For those of you who have trouble with authority – or just like to push the boundaries – we will have butcher paper on the tables so that inspiration and ideas can be written down on them before they get away.

Please look at your schedule and carve out the time for this meeting. It is both important and fun. You will be glad you came – and your participation will matter to the direction and life of our church.

Please let me know if you would like to participate in some way other than in person. I am not a tech guru – but we will see what we can do to include people virtually who can't be there in person. It is that important.

Happy Summer! I hope to see you on August 16th.



From Pastor Pat Weatherwax

Here's what I'm thinking about in my final month at firstpresbc.org

If you read "So You want to Talk About Race" by Ijeoma Aluo, and want to chat about it PLEASE contact Pat Weatherwax at patwwax@gmail.com or 269-365-1481. We will arrange a conversation around the interested people's schedules.

August's suggested reading is "Growing Young" by Jake Mulder, et al. It is a great reference and will answer some things for us about the work of God in local churches and younger people.

David Hopkins' memorial service will be in the sanctuary on August 11, at 10 AM. . Because David's grandchildren are too young for vaccinations, masks are strongly encouraged for all those attending, and required for unvaccinated people. The service will be a joyful worship celebration with music and special refreshments to follow. Your support of this family and your honoring of David's years of service to First Pres BC is appreciated. The service for Eleanor Boston will be held in the sanctuary on August 21, at 11 AM. There also will be the opportunity to view and submit bids in a silent auction of Eleanor's artwork, in Fellowship Hall. Proceeds will benefit the church.

Her family intends to bring around 30 pieces. There are a variety of both watercolor and oil paintings. They include wildlife, birds and flowers, and numerous landscapes.

What a special way to honor Eleanor and benefit the church she loved!

Grace to you and peace





In our sanctuary:

For David Hopkins on August 11 at 10 am

For Eleanor Boston on August 21 at 11 am



Family Game Night Is Back

Join us at the Youth Center on Wednesday, August 4th, at 6:00 pm. For those who don't know, Game Night was started in 2019. It's held on the 1st Wednesday of the month from 6:00-8:00pm. There'll be card games, board games, and maybe some puzzles available. There'll also be snacks! If you have a favorite game, bring it along! Come on down and check it out. There's always lots of fun and laughter. The whole church family is welcome.



Presbyterian Women

On July 18, Jim Kerner and Carl McCune were presented the Presbyterian Women's Honorary Lifetime Membership Award for their faithful service to PW and the church.

PW's Fall Bible Study is "What My Grandmothers Taught Me." If you have a photo of your grandmother, please bring it in to the church and pin it on the PW Board in the main hallway.

For information about PW Circles, you may contact Annettie Tribbett @ 963-6706.



Stuff-A-Bus-Campaign

CityLinC and Communities in Schools are partnering to give school supplies to children in need when they return to school this fall. First Pres is a collection site for the effort. Backpacks, pencils, pencil boxes, sharpeners, erasers, crayons, washable markers, colored pencils, safety scissors, glue sticks, white school glue, hand sanitizer, notebook paper, pocket folders, three –ring binders, rulers are the items that are needed. There's a collection bin in the Parlor. We'll be accepting donations until August 15.

Cover photos

Top: The Sew N Sews: Vickie Grant, Julie Chapman, Nancy Bodiford, Winnie Keedy, Kathy DeGraaf, Kathy Baker. Right: Tim Batterson. Bottom: Members who attended the Battle Creek Coalition for Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation event earlier this summer: Seated: Lori Kneeland, Jeanne Hickman, Ruth Hetletvedt, Arden Hetletvedt, Standing: Sue Keitel. Left: Justin & Eric LeFleur at the Retreat Center during Caravan. Center: A petunia that escaped from the flower bed on the west side of the church (Thanks, Bruce Davy, for pointing it out.)



The Power of Listening

“The most basic and powerful way to connect to another person is to listen,” says Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen, author and integrative medicine

professor. “Perhaps the most important thing we ever give each other is our attention.”

Twice in Mark 4, while teaching, Jesus urges, “Let anyone with ears to hear listen” (verses 9 & 23, NRSV). One way we show what Jesus means to us is by truly listening to his word — not just hearing sounds but being attentive and intentional. Likewise, one way we love and serve others is by respectfully listening to them: not assuming we know what they feel or mean or will say; not planning what to say even as they’re still speaking, but listening deeply to learn about them and their experience.

We often think living our faith calls for great accomplishments or worldwide reach. But Remen says, “A loving silence often has power to heal and to connect.” Don’t underestimate something as basic and doable as listening as a way to practice Christlike love.

Do You Know?

First Pres has 4 members who are 100+.

How about sending a card to:

Peg Prickett

Pearl Hickey

Helen McIver

Ginny Wilber



Happy Birthday!

Kim LaFleur	August 1
Jack Budrow, Jr.	August 1
Helen Noble	August 3
Nan Spindler	August 7
Jack Bulko	August 8
Nan Jones	August 8
Deane McCarthy	August 9
Paula Colburn	August 14
Melva Zaharion	August 14
Bob Moore	August 16
Joel Ritter	August 18
Alex Burns	August 21
Marla Colburn	August 23
Laura Bradley	August 25
Pam Flanders	August 25
Beverly Frey	August 25
Dena Haas	August 26
Gerry Fox	August 28
Bill Winslow	August 28
Denise Rust	August 30
Megan Johnson	August 31



Alex LaFleur was received into First Pres membership by his Confession of Faith on June 27. Welcome, Alex!



The Lemonade Stand's Open!

After worship on Sunday morning, you're invited to join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parlor. No time to stop and visit? Just say "Hi" and grab a couple cookies to go!



Kiran Bilanow greeting guests at the Lemonade Stand.



Doug McCune

Caravan 2021 was a big success. We got a lot of work done at the Retreat Center. We replaced/removed the landscape edgers in

front of the building, we cleaned and organized the shed, and we replaced the patio in front of the cross behind the building. A BIG THANK YOU to Kathy Baker, Josh Liechty, Steve and Chris Owel, Carl McCune, and Justin and Alex LaFleur for coming out and helping. Just FYI there will be another/more work day(s) out there this fall to do some painting that couldn't be done this week. Watch for more details.



Can You Help?

We need several card tables for the World Café on Monday, August 16. Please call the church office if you can lend us one or two. And be sure to join us at the Café on August 16 at 6:30 in Fellowship Hall.



Roses to Kathy Medaugh for coordinating the Sunday flower schedule.

Many thanks to all who donated Health Kit items and gifts of money for our community Health Kit project. Your kindness and generosity is much appreciated.

Roses to Daniel Kring for leading the singing on Sunday mornings, and to the Handbell Choir for its outstanding musical contribution to worship on July 25.

. . . to the family and friends of Shirley Henry, who passed away on July 3. Shirley had been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 1960.



Carl McCune,
Clerk of Session

At the July 11 Congregational Meeting the following people were elected:

To serve as Ruling Elders on Session in the Class of 2024:

David Brown, Bruce Davy, Diana Golden, Carl McCune and Sue Stetler.

To serve on the Board of Deacons in the Class of 2024:

Kathy Baker, Linda Holden, Joy Miller, Marty Shroll and Jackie Wells.

To serve a two-year term as a Youth Deacon: Nichelle Wood.

To serve as at-large members of the Nominating Committee in the Class of 2024:

Pete Christ and Carol Gault and to serve in the Class of 2023: Sue Keitel.

Also, the congregation approved the dissolution of the pastoral relationship with Pastor Pat Weatherwax due to her upcoming retirement on August 31, 2021. This was approved with gratitude and thanksgiving for her time of service to our congregation.

At the July 12 Session Meeting, the following elections were held for 2021-2022:

Carl McCune to be Clerk of Session, Tom Cole to be Church Treasurer,

Ruth Hetletvedt and Carl McCune to be Commissioners to Presbytery,

Mary Burg and Nan Jones to be the Session representatives on the Nominating Committee.

Current Leadership of Committees/Ministry Teams and Assignments of Session Members

Finance Committee: Tom Cole (Chairperson), Loren Rex

Personnel Committee: Pastor Mike (Chairperson), David Lucas (Vice-Chairperson)

Property Committee: Nan Jones (Chairperson), David Brown

Connection Ministry Team: Lisa Brown (Moderator), Diana Golden

Discipleship Ministry Team: Ruth Hetletvedt (Moderator)

Generosity Ministry Team: Francie Winslow (Moderator), Bruce Davy

Mission Ministry Team: Belinda Bullard (Moderator), Jean Parker

Worship Ministry Team: Jean Rost (Moderator), Sue Stetler

(The duties of the Safety Ministry Team will be carried out by the Property Committee)

Membership Update We are saddened by the deaths of members Luella Sovorn on June 18, 2021 and Shirley Henry on July 3, 2021. Alex LaFleur read his Statement of Faith and was received into Active Membership on June 27, 2021. Current Active Membership is 280. The next regular Session meeting will be September 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. location TBD.



Annual Picnic

All members and their guests are encouraged to attend this year's Annual Picnic at the Retreat Center (20398 Waubascon Road) on Sunday, August 1. The day begins with worship outside at 10 a.m. (We'll move inside the Center if it rains.)

After worship we'll fire up the grill and cook hot dogs and burgers. There'll also be potato salad, chips and other goodies. All food and beverages will be provided.

Assistance will be available for those with mobility problems.

This is a perfect opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and our ability to connect (in person) as a church family again.

See you there!

First Pres Calendar

First Presbyterian Church 111 Capital Avenue NE Battle Creek, Michigan 49017
269-964-3700 firstpresbc.org



2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship 10A Annual Picnic 11A	2 Retreat Ctr. Com. 5:30P	3 Prayer 9A Exercise 10A	4 Game Night 6P	5	6	7
8 Worship 10A Install/Ordain New Officers	9 Choir Camp	10 Choir Camp Prayer 9A Exercise 10A	11 Choir Camp Dave Hopkins Memorial 10A	12 Choir Camp Property Mtg. 1P	13 Choir Camp	14
15 Worship 10A	16 World Café 6:30P Discipleship Com.	17 Prayer 9A Exercise 10A	18	19 Men's Fellowship 7P	20	21 Eleanor Boston Memorial 11A
22 Worship 10A	23	24 Prayer 9A Exercise 10A Carillon Assembly 10A Stephen Ministry 6:30P	25	26 PW Coord. Team 10A	27	28 Burns/Turpin Wedding 3P
29 Worship 10A Pastor Pat's Celebration 11A	30	31 Prayer 9A Exercise 10A	Sept. 1	Sept. 2 Soup Kitchen 9A	Sept. 3	Sept. 4

First Presbyterian Church
111 Capital Avenue, NE
Battle Creek, MI 49017

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Battle Creek, Michigan

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Sunday, August 1
@
Retreat Center

Worship @ 10:00 a.m.
followed by The Picnic
(All food provided)

World Café



Monday, August 16
@
6:30 p.m.
in
Fellowship Hall

