



# *Pennfield Press*

*July/August 2019 Newsletter*

*Newsletter of the Pennfield Presbyterian Church  
Growing Through Faith, Family, and Fellowship*

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**www.pennfieldpresbyterian.org**

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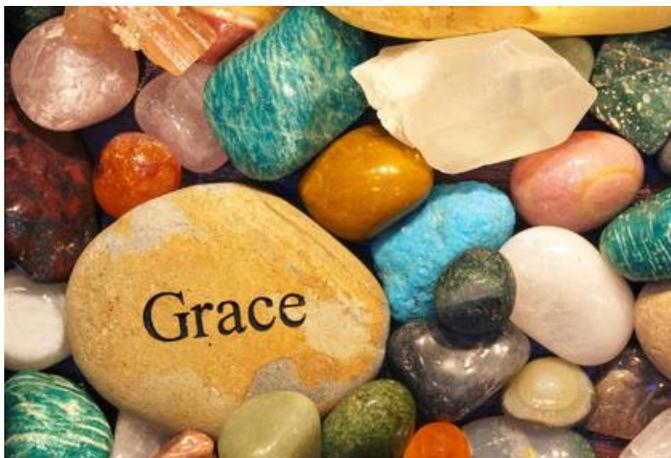
## *Pastor's Message*

Dear Friends,

This summer we are experiencing too much of a good thing: water. The steady, near daily rain has turned gardens into an overgrown wilderness and made planting crops nearly impossible. Corn has yet to be planted or is stunted by the soggy soil. Veggie plants consist of largely leaves without a flower in sight. And mowing the lawn has become a bi-weekly affair.

And yet, can there ever be too much of a good thing in the spiritual life? Can too much caring, love, generosity, and mercy overwhelm and leave us stunted in our growth? Can there ever be too much learning, too much study about the things of God? Can there ever be too many people to care about, too many stories to listen to and recount?

It seems to me that God tailors the quantity of his gifts to our capacity to receive. And we here at our church have surely experienced an abundance of them in recent months. Our music program is flourishing under the leadership of our music director, Esther Rayburn, and our cantor (and soloist and actor) Thom Outman. Session committees are experimenting with new programs, such as the Plant Sale and Landscape Show, fellowship outings, and the summer tutoring for elementary school children in our neighborhood. And the deacons and I continue to visit the homebound each week, while I also visit members on my own.



Recently I drove to Holt, Michigan, to visit one of our homebound members there. And what I experienced on my visit sure had me utterly amazed. Here was a man who had founded Fort Custer National Cemetery in Battle Creek because he was inspired by the Arlington site where for years he had an apartment so he could commute to D.C. He was close to the Kennedy clan and had served with Jack in the Navy. He was a delegate to General Assembly in Omaha, Nebraska, and shared a ride there with another Presbyterian elder, Harry Truman, who later asked him to become his secretary of labor (but who declined). At the time the atomic bomb was

dropped over Japan, he was on a ship from Greenland to Brazil. He had an office at the Federal Building next door to George Romney, governor of Michigan, and knew Mitt when he was little. And he hosted his boss,

Senator Elizabeth Dole at his home at St. Mary's Lake when her husband, Bob, was at the VA hospital in Battle Creek. Yes, you guessed it, his name is Charles Romine, and what a gift of abundance it was to spend the afternoon with him!

As we enter the summer months, I pray that we will take note of the abundance of good gifts that come our way, the gifts of personal friendship, of learning, of collaboration. By the same token, let's also share our gifts with church members and the larger community by being present and giving a little of our time.

With joy and love,

Pastor Annemarie



### **Tutoring Elementary School Children this Summer**

Summer tutoring will be taking place at Pennfield Presbyterian Church **Monday, July 8 through Wednesday, August 14 from 9-11 a.m.** We currently have seven students signed up from Purdy Elementary. Flyers were sent home with all students at Purdy. Families of these seven students responded. The principal has provided us with the basic reading and math needs of these students. We are asking for volunteers from the congregation to assist with the tutoring, especially for the August dates. You do not need to have been a teacher to help. Anyone who is a parent has taught. You do not need to commit to all sessions, although participation in all would be appreciated. For questions, contact Laurel Riley.



### **Garden Tour on Tuesday, July 23**

Our church will be hosting a garden tour of four member's homes. The tour begins at the home of Tom and Chris Beaver at 11 a.m. The tour ends at the home of Rosemary Hahn and will include a boat ride on Fine Lake, courtesy of boat captains Woody Booher, Darrell VanVleet, and Burrel Stults.

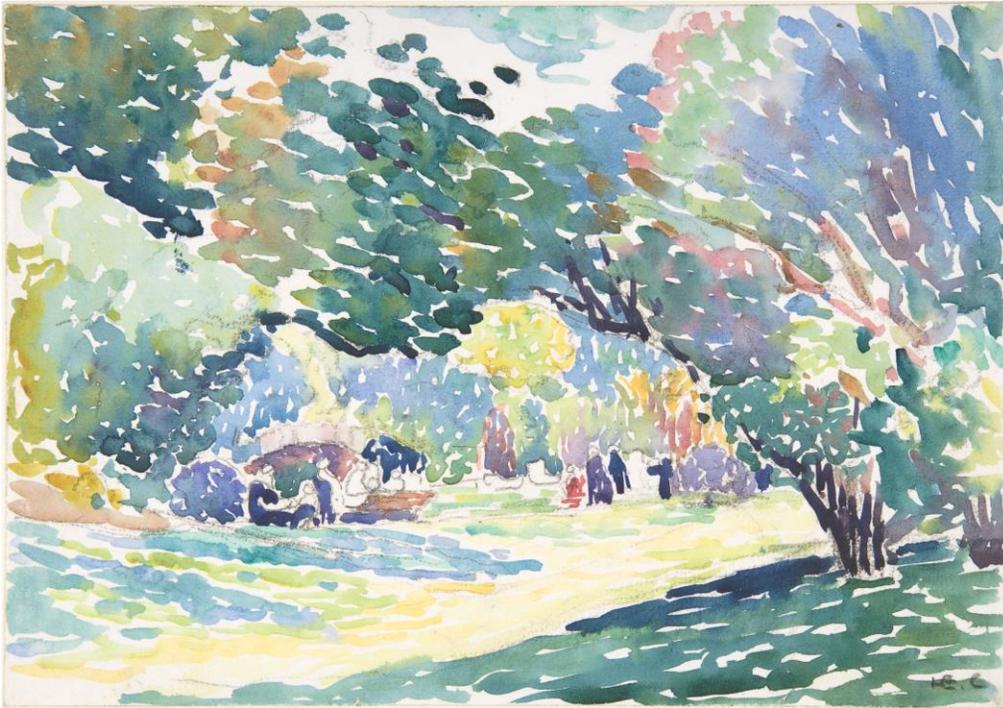
--Tom and Chris Beaver 129 Dreamfield Drive

--Darrell & Marcia VanVleet 118 Dreamfield Drive

--Bart & Trina Sleper 223424 M-78

--Rosemary Hahn and Woody Booher 236 East Hickory Road (Fine Lake)

The tour is sponsored by Fellowship and Evangelism Committee. Be sure to invite a friend.



### **A Big Thank You to Sponsors and Donors to our Landscaping and Capital Improvements**

Over the last few months we saw many upgrades and improvements to our church facility, landscape, flower beds, and parking lot/driveway. Many, many sponsors from our congregation and the larger Battle Creek community came forward to assist us in this effort. We, the Session, could not have anticipated the support and financial giving we received in the last few months, and, to say the least, it was miraculous. So, we want to thank you and all those who supported this effort.

Here is a list of members and businesses who contributed in giving of their time, services, and financial resources:

- Frank Rose, who donated our new church windows, doors, and cement work to help drainage around the building and the church driveway
- Harry Scheuffele, who gave money in memory of Marge Scheuffele and Millie Smith to repair and resurface our church parking lot
- Dennis and Sandy Shaffer, who donated money in memory of Sandy's parents to be used to beautify our church grounds and flower beds
- Bruce and Karen Newhard, who donated eaves troughs and drainage by the flower beds
- Rosemary Hahn, who donated several rose bushes and trees in memory of her parents, Merle & Mary Hammond and late husband, Edwin Hahn
- Michelle and Jeff Jarrard and family, who gave a tree in honor of their parents
- Members who volunteered of their time for our Plant Sale and Garden Show, helped with set-up, installations and clean-up with several projects, and donated numerous perennials for our church's flower beds
- Lois Shubert, Chair of Property and Finance, who coordinated this huge church-wide effort and community outreach and gave too many hours to be counted

- Ron Shepard Tree Service**, who did the tree and shrub removal and donated the bark for our church flower beds
- Jeff of Next Generation Lawn Service**, who removed shrubs around the patio area at no charge and provided the edging of flower beds
- DJ Lawn Service**, who donated lots and lots of top soil for flower beds
- Carpenter Gravel**, who donated the stone and gravel for our basketball and fire pit areas
- Hamilton Landscape Supply**, who donated rocks at the entry to the church grounds and the two giant boulders by our electronic sign
- Pennfield Gardens**, who donated flower pots and delivered annuals and hanging baskets for our Plant Sale
- The Battle Creek Farm Bureau**, who donated door prizes for our Plant Sale
- Chapman Nursery**, who allowed us to purchase shrubs and trees at a much reduced rate
- Gardner Brothers**, who donated stone support to our church's dumpster area
- Bob Coward of Cowardly Gardener**, who provided our church's new landscape design and offered his gardening expertise to the public at our Garden Show at church
- Murray Asphalt**, who provided us with a much reduced rate for the resurfacing of our church driveway and parking lot



**Local Businesses to be Honored in Church on July 14**  
 On **Sunday, July 14** during worship, we will honor those businesses of our Battle Creek community who helped us with our capital improvements and landscaping efforts. Please make a point of attending this celebration and thanking our local sponsors in person. A reception will follow after worship hosted by the Fellowship & Evangelism Committee.

**Yoga Class to start up again**

Starting **Monday, June 24**, we will offer another 6-week yoga class with Amanda Wallace. The class will meet on Mondays at 9 a.m. in the Music Room. It will run through July 29. The cost is \$7.00 per person per session if prepaid or \$8.00 for a single session.



**Invite a Friend – using our yellow Welcome Cards**

Next to our visitor's book in the Narthex are yellow Welcome Cards. Please use these cards to invite neighbors and friends to one of our many church programs and events. (Please know it takes about seven times of asking and inviting until a person will say yes.) Remember that it was through someone else inviting YOU that brought you here.



### **Annual Pig Roast and Church Picnic on Saturday, August 24.**

Our annual pig roast and church picnic will be held on **Saturday, August 24 at 2 p.m.** at the home of Burrel and Deanna Stults. Their home is on Fine Lake at 14427 Acorn Cove Trail. The pig is provided by one of our members, Marshall Hlatko. Boat rides will be provided. We will eat at 4 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass and invite a friend.

### **In Need of Prayer**



Please remember our members and friends who are homebound, ill, recuperating, or have concerns and need your prayer. A card or phone call would brighten their day.

Among them are:

- Marshall Hlatko
- Harry Scheuffele
- Karen Lewis
- Sandra Prince
- Helen Yates
- Chuck Romine
- Dick Walker
- Lila Back

### **Guest Preacher on August 4**

On Communion Sunday, August 4, our guest preacher will be Daniel Jones, Executive Director of Haven of Rest Ministries. Our church has supported this form of outreach for many years. We look forward to welcoming Mr. Jones to our church.



### **Music for Sunday Worship during Summer**

We need you. Do you play an instrument or sing? Would you like to do special music during the summer? Please contact Esther.

## Soup Kitchen at Salvation Army

Our church sponsors a meal on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Salvation Army on Capital Avenue. Typically we serve between 170 to 200 people. You can either help prepare from 9 to 11 a.m. or you can help serve from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please let us know if you would like to get involved. It's a marvelous ministry for sure!! For questions, please see Sandi & Bill Rothney.

## Food Pantry

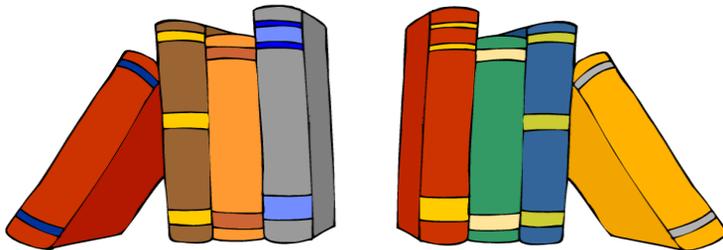
We need canned fruit, cereal and bar soap as well as the regular items. The Food Pantry is very grateful for your contributions throughout the year. The need is great to help feed our community.

Esther Rayburn is collecting egg cartons to be used for distribution of eggs at the Food Pantry. Bring them to church and put them in the Library.



## Operation Christmas Child

The following items are needed for the Operation Christmas Child project: shoe boxes, crayons, marbles, tooth brushes, wash cloths, small stuffed animals, #2 pencils or anything a child might use. Bring the items to church and Esther will take them.



## Library News

In reviewing our church library two books are missing. They are part of the Pastor Maggie Series by Barbara Edema, titled "To Love and to Cherish" and "To Have and to Hold." Please return them at your earliest convenience.

--The Christian Education Committee

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July 1: Chuck Romine

Bill Rothney

2: Aidan Tucker

11: John Baxter

Linda Baxter

Debbie Trayer

12: Sheri Harris

13: Bev Grimes

18: Glea Anthonissen

20: Orv Stevens

Taylor Higgs

29: Jay A. Moore, Sr.

30: Laurel Riley

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

July 8: Mark Atma and Ruth TenBroek

31: Nelson and Marti Dull

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

August 8: Jim & Lois Fleming

11: Debbie & Denny Trayer

19: Todd & Andrea Paul

20: Bruce & Karen Newhard

26: Glenn & Carol Alday



### **Church Happenings in July/August**

**Sun., July 7** No Men's Breakfast

**Mon., July 8 - July 29** 9:00 a.m. Yoga in the Music Room

**Mon., July 8 - Aug. 12** 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Tutoring elementary school students

**Wed., July 10 - Aug. 14** 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Tutoring elementary school students

**Tue., July 23** 11:00 a.m. Garden tour at church members' homes

**Sun., Aug. 4** No Men's Breakfast

**Sat., Aug. 24** 2:00-5:00 p.m. (eat at 4:00 p.m.) Annual Pig Roast Church Picnic



### **Leadership of Our Church**

For questions regarding programs and activities in our church, please contact the chair of the respective session committee or the moderators of deacons.

Administration and Personnel—Bart Sleeper (Elder, Chair), Tom Beaver (Elder)

Christian Education—Kathy Heath (Elder, Co-Chair), Laurel Riley (Co-Chair)

Evangelism and Fellowship—Cathy Walsh (Elder, Co-Chair), Jeanette Higgs (Elder, Co-Chair)

Interpretation and Stewardship—Tom Beaver (Elder)

Property and Finance—Lois Shubert (Elder, Chair), Jim Noble (Elder), Don Preston (Elder)

Worship and Music—Kathleen Lyon (Elder, Chair), Lois Shubert (Elder)

Moderator of Session—The Rev. Annemarie S. Kidder (Teaching Elder)

Moderators of Deacons: Ruth TenBroek and Dan La Valley (Co-Moderators)

# July 2019

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																			
	<i>1</i> 9:00 AM Yoga	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> Independence Day	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>																																																																																																			
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25	26 1:00 PM PW Board Mtg. 6:00 PM Session	27 Soup Kitchen	28 1:00 PM W.O.W. at Coney Island	29	30	31																																																																																			

## SERVERS DURING JULY

### **Opener**

7/7 S. Higgs  
7/14 C. Walsh  
7/21 M. Baxter  
7/28 D. VanVleet

### **Ushers**

7/7 S. & J. Higgs  
7/14 B. Grimes & K. Lyon  
7/21 D. & S. Shaffer  
7/28 D. VanVleet & M. Pierson

### **Communion Servers**

7/7 S. & J. Higgs, B. Stults, B. Grimes

### **Greeters**

7/7 R. Hahn & W. Booher  
7/14 T. & B. Sleper  
7/21 J. & D. Preston  
7/28 K. Heath & D. Carter

### **Lay Reader**

7/7 T. Sleper  
7/14 T. Outman  
7/21 M. Hull  
7/28 C. LaValley

### **Lockup**

7/7 R. Jarrard  
7/14 B. Stults  
7/21 D. Preston  
7/28 B. Rothney

### **Coffee Hour**

7/7 E. Rayburn & C. Walsh  
7/14 The Jordan Family  
7/21 D. & C. Hammond  
7/28 S. Rothney & K. Heath

**Counters** Dan & Cathy LaValley

## SERVERS DURING AUGUST

### **Opener**

8/4 T. Beaver  
8/11 C. Walsh  
8/18 J. Noble  
8/25 B. Sleper

### **Ushers**

8/4 M. Hull & T. Beaver  
8/11 G. Alday & E. Tucker  
8/18 J. & G. Noble  
8/25 B. & T. Sleper

### **Communion Servers**

8/4 M. Hull, K. Lyon, B. Grimes, T. Beaver

### **Greeters**

8/4 J. & L. Fleming  
8/11 L. Hewitt & D. Trayer  
8/18 D. & S. Shaffer  
8/25 J. & D. Preston

### **Lay Reader**

8/4 A. Jordan  
8/11 T. Sleper  
8/18 B. Rothney  
8/25 C. Stine-King

### **Lockup**

8/4 J. Noble  
8/11 R. Jarrard  
8/18 B. Rothney  
8/25 B. Sleper

### **Coffee Hour**

8/4 J. & G. Noble  
8/11 L. & M. Pierson  
8/18 The Adler Family  
8/25 T. & B. Sleper

**Counters** Darrell VanVleet & Bev Grimes

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Aug. 2: Dan LaValley  
Rebecca Elliot  
5: Stewart Ayres  
9: Jenna Atma  
13: Bruce Newhard  
16: Steve Higgs  
20: Ross Jarrard

Aug. 26: Martin Pierson  
29: Chris Beaver  
Andrea Paul  
30: Betty Fox

