

Pennfield Press

March 2022 Newsletter

Growing in Christ Through Faith, Family, and Fellowship

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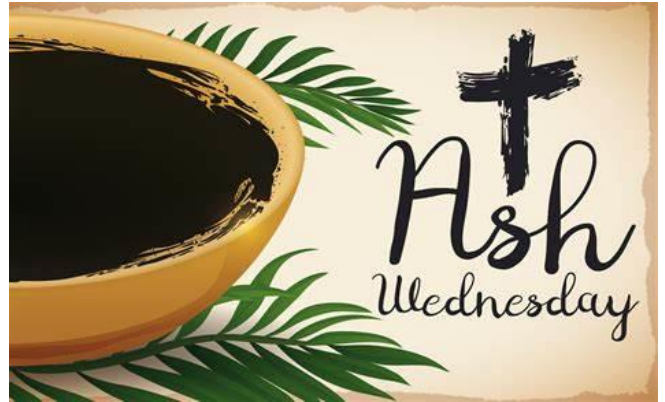
www.pennfieldpresbyterian.org

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Dear Friends,

We are entering the season of Lent. Its name comes from the word "to lengthen" because the days are getting longer now with more daylight. Lent lasts for forty days and culminates in Holy Week, Jesus' suffering unto death, leading up to his rising on Easter. Typically during Lent, we give up something that we enjoy--certain types of food or beverages, certain forms of entertainment, certain attitudes that we have cultivated, certain grudges and complaints.

I cannot help but wonder what were to happen if we intentionally made it a point to only speak positively of others. What if we eliminated crude language from our vocabulary and even our ears? What if we looked at our life and current situation with an eye of gratitude rather than one of regret and dismay. Are you?



Lent also invites us to do more for the poor, the hungry, the distraught. Could we add one or two activities to our week that will mean a sacrifice of our time for the good of others on Christ's behalf? Maybe it could be showing appreciation to someone who could use it, giving away a compliment, sending a note. Will you?

We begin Lent on **Wednesday, March 2 at 6 p.m. with an online Ash Wednesday service** from Facebook Annemarie Kidder. Like last year, please have some ashes ready which you can impose on your forehead while watching. The ashes used for Ash Wednesday are the burnt leaves of Palm Sunday. But you can use those from your fireplace or the wick of a candle. I look forward to seeing you online.

This month, on **Saturday, March 19 at 9:30 a.m.** we will also have our joint officers' retreat. Invited are all deacons and elders who are currently serving. The current session has requested a study and overview of our Presbyterian constitution, especially the Book of Order and our bylaws, so that we become more familiar with proper procedures and policy. Also, we will begin our church's self-study by revisiting the church's history so as to better prepare in moving forward.

With peace and joy,



Pastor Annemarie

Adult Education Classes



--**The Contemporary Issues Class** addresses topics of current interest on social, economic, and political issues and examines them through the lens of the Christian faith. You will receive the articles with discussion questions beforehand.

We continue to meet virtually via Zoom on the first Sunday of each month at 1:00pm. And then again we meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 8:00 pm. You will receive a Zoom link via email prior to the class.

If you would like more information about this class, please contact Mark Atma at markatma@comcast.net.

--Lenten Study on The Lord's Prayer

This class meets weekly both in person and via Zoom on **Sundays at 11 a.m.** and is being led by Pastor Annemarie. We are using the book by the popular writer and pastor Adam Hamilton, titled *The Lord's Prayer*, where we explore the various parts of what Jesus recommended we pray about.

This study will run throughout the Lenten season, and end shortly before Easter. I hope you will make this study part of your Lenten preparation. Books are still available at the church office for pick-up. The cost of the book is \$12 (with a portion of its cost underwritten by the church).



Worship: In-Person and Via Facebook Live

We meet for in-person worship and we livestream via facebook. If you choose to attend worship, please **be present no later than 9:50 a.m.** If you need a hearing device, please contact Lois Shubert beforehand. Livestreaming will begin at 10 a.m.



Office Hours are Mo.-Tue. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Jean Smith, our financial and office secretary, is in the church office from **9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays**, along with a few hours on either Thursday or Friday.

Correction: Welcome to our New Deacons

The names of our newest deacons were accidentally omitted last month. Here they are:

Deacon for Class 2022 Jessica Harvath

Deacon for Class 2024 Carla Stine-King

We are so grateful for their willingness to serve.

Fellowship and Evangelism

Each Sunday prayer cards are available to fill out and drop in the offering plate after worship. The prayer requests will be forwarded to our deacons' prayer chain and will remain confidential.

We continue to be cautious about fellowship times, so our coffee and conversation will be on hold until the Session meets in March where the elders will decide on next steps.

Greeters are:

March 6 Bruce and Karen Newhard

March 13 Lila Back and Chris Beaver

March 20 Kathy Heath and Marti Dull

March 27 Bill and Sandi Rothney

Please note a change in the greeter responsibilities, which now include turning off lights on the first floor hallway, Fellowship Hall, sanctuary, bathrooms, and offices, as well as downstairs. Thank you for making us a welcoming church!

Deacons' Corner

On Sunday morning, we invite you to fill out a prayer card and drop it in the offering plate, along with your giving. All written prayer requests are being submitted weekly to our deacons prayer chain. Please know that we care!

We also welcome as the new deacon moderator Jessica Harvath. You may contact her directly to submit a prayer request to our deacons' prayer chain. Her email is jessicaharvath1964@gmail.com. All prayer requests are being kept confidential.

Currently we are still looking for two more deacons. Please contact Jessica if you are interested.



Presbyterian Women and Hannah Circle

The mission project of Presbyterian Women for March is the Charitable Union youth coat drive. In years past, we have collected coats for Charitable Union to distribute in our community. Charitable Union is now requesting cash donations so they can purchase coats in the sizes and types they need. The Presbyterian Women will be collecting contributions for this mission project through Thursday, March 31st. We will also be contributing \$200.00 of mission funds for the coat drive. Coats purchased by Charitable Union will be distributed during the 2022-2023 school year.



The PW board and general membership meetings will be held on **Monday, Feb 28th at 1 p.m.** and **Monday, March 26th at 1 p.m.**

The Hannah Circle continues to study the Book of Ruth. It will meet on **Tuesday, March 15 at 1 p.m.** via Zoom. All women of the congregation are members of Presbyterian Women and are invited to attend meetings.

Sara Galloway, Moderator

Property and Finance

We are ever so grateful for your contributions and the payment of the per capita. We received over thirty responses to our letter and are in a good position to move forward as a church. What a marvelous congregation you are!

Thank you for giving and supporting the ministries of our church.

Please know that in addition to the regular offering on Sunday morning or via mailing a check to the church, you may also give online from our church website, www.pennfieldpresbyterian.org. Click on the Give Now button, and you will be guided to our Giving Page. Thank you for giving!



Livestreamed Worship and Facebook Devotions



We livestream worship from Pastor Annemarie's facebook page at 10 a.m. If you are early, you may have to refresh the page. Please leave a comment and like and share. Each Wednesday Pastor Annemarie posts a devotion and on Fridays the scripture on which the upcoming sermon is based. All worship services and devotions are also posted on our church's FB page and remain there.

Northeast Food Pantry News

This month, Meijer on Beckley Road is running the Simply Give Campaign with Double Match Days being **March 5 and March 26**. I will again take your donations to Meijer for double match day.

The Northeast Pantry will receive the benefits from the donations I take in in addition to our share of the total funds earned from each campaign. Northeast uses the bulk of our Simply Give Food Cards to keep the baby pantry stocked with diapers, formula, baby food and baby cereal. We are able to help our families with babies in need with these funds.

Please keep saving your Family Fare Direct Your Dollars receipts and turn in to the church. Or you may mail them to Northeast Food Pantry, 342 Capital Avenue NE, Battle Creek, MI 49017.

We are nearly ready to turn in another \$150,000 worth of receipts for \$1000 cash. These funds are being used to buy shampoo/conditioner, toothbrushes/toothpaste, deodorant, hand lotion. Our clients are extremely grateful to be able to receive these necessary supplies. Thank you!

Currently we are in need of cereal, jam/jelly, canned fruit and crackers (any kind, especially Ritz type and saltines). We also need egg cartons.

Thank you for supporting us with financial and food donations, Family Fare receipts, bags, paper and plastic, and by volunteering and prayer. We are doing the work of Jesus in our neighborhood.

--Laurie Riley, coordinator



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March 7: Kim Konopnicki

13: Joy Thomas

15: Hope Crisher

16: Jeff Jarrard

18: Kent Elliot

21: Jim Fleming

23: Helen Smith

27: Cassie Cope

31: Marcia VanVleet

Kathy Garms

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

March 10: Jesse and Cathy Boyer



Our New Session of Ruling Elders

Property and Finance--Christine Ayres (Chair), Mike Monroe (Elder)

Fellowship and Evangelism--Sara Galloway (Chair)

Christian Education--Marie Hull (Chair)

Stewardship and Mission--Aaron Jordan (Chair), Marie Hull (Elder), Christine Ayres (Elder), Mike Monroe (Elder)

Worship and Music--Kathy Lyon (Chair), Aaron Jordan (Elder), Christine Ayres (Elder)

Administration and Personnel--Lois Shubert (Chair), Christine Ayres (Elder), Kathy Lyon (Elder)

Clerk of Session: Kathy Lyon

Moderator: The Rev. Dr. Annemarie S. Kidder