

Pennfield Press

May 2022 Newsletter

Growing in Christ Through Faith, Family, and Fellowship

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www.pennfieldpresbyterian.org

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Dear Friends,

The signs of new life and resurrection power are both outdoors and in the home. Flowers and lawn are painting the landscape that I see from my window in bright yellow, purple, and green. And for the entire month of May I will have on display the Easter cards I received, along with decorated eggs, stuffed Steiff bunnies, and forsythia and pussy willow branches.

The Easter season lasts for seven weeks until Jesus' Ascension and Pentecost. During these seven weeks we see Jesus appearing to his friends in bodily form. He eats with them, he allows himself to be touched, and he warms himself by a camp fire.

I wonder why we have these post-resurrection stories in our Bibles. Did the early Christians need concrete images of a resurrected Jesus? Did they need to know that his wounds were real and that he



wasn't a ghost? I believe they did, as do we. It is good to be reminded that Jesus was truly raised from the dead, that his body was real, and that he truly suffered the wounds inflicted on him. How reassuring for our Christian faith to have a friend who himself experienced every form of pain imaginable! And to know that he is alive and readily accessible--even right now!

This month is laden with activity at church. We will have our church-wide Benefit Auction on **Saturday, May 14 from 10 a.m. to noon**. The deacons will be

delivering May flowers starting **May 22**. And our Self-Study Committee will be commissioned on **Sunday, May 22**.

We have five Sundays in May, and as always we begin the month with communion on **Sunday, May 1**, where we will also hear one of these post-resurrection stories. **On Sunday, May 8**, we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday and are honoring all mothers and all women for Mother's Day. **On Sunday, May 15** we will kick off a new book study at 11:15 a.m. both via Zoom and in person. And on Sunday, **May 29**, we invite you to bring red potted flowers (geraniums) to church since the following **Sunday, June 5** is Pentecost. It is also the Sunday when I'll be away and the Rev. Roxie Perry will bring the message.

Wishing you now a blessed Easter season with resurrection power in Christ. Halleluia! Amen!

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 Christian faith. You will receive the articles with discussion questions beforehand.

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This month the class will meet via Zoom on Sunday, May 1 at 1 p.m. and on Tuesday, May 24 at 8 p.m. 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.



--New Book Study: “Traveling Mercies” by Anne Lamott

This class will kick off on **Sunday, May 15** and will meet via Zoom and in person on **Sundays at 11:15 a.m.** It is being led by Pastor Annemarie. We are using the book by the best-selling author Anne Lamott, who came to faith at a Presbyterian church in California, where she continues to serve as a teacher and elder. The book *Traveling Mercies*, published in 1999, is her first in what would become an extensive series of writings on her walk with Christ and the unfolding of her Christian faith. One of her famous quotes is her definition of prayer. “There are only two kinds of prayer,” she says. “Help! Help! and Thank you! Thank you!” Looking forward to seeing you in class.

Books are available in the church office at the cost of \$10.



Worship: In-Person and Via Facebook Live

We meet for in-person worship and we livestream via facebook. If you attend in person, 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.

Fellowship and Evangelism--Open Again for Fellowship!

It is great to have Coffee and Conversation again after worship on Sundays. We wish to thank all who have provided food and drink and to those who have helped with the prep and clean up. There have been an average of 15 to 20 folks joining us each Sunday. Jean Smith has once again taken on the job of scheduling greeters and servers for Coffee and Conversation. Please check the schedule posted in each month's newsletter and follow up with her if you need to make any changes.



The Fellowship Committee is getting busier as things normalize. If interested, give me a call!!
--Sara Galloway, Chair

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

Greeters and Refreshment Providers are:

Date	Greeters	Coffee/Refreshments
May 1	Marie and Mitch Hull	Christine Ayres
May 8	Steve and Jeanette Higgs Galloway	PW and Sara and Erin
May 15	Karen and Bruce Newhard	Bill and Sandi Rothney
May 22	Cathy and Jesse Boyer	Mick and Lois Shubert
May 29	Lois and Mick Shubert Lyon	Donna Teichman and Kathy



Thank you for making us a welcoming church!

Presbyterian Women and Hannah Circle

The Presbyterian Women thanks all who supported our annual Coat Drive for charitable Union. With your generous support, we were able to donate \$330 to the Charitable Union for coats.

The next major mission project is the Birthday Offering, which supports large scale projects across the globe. This year marks 100 years of dedicated giving. How better to celebrate your Mother this Mother's Day and to celebrate the joyful life God has given you than with a contribution to the PW Birthday Offering! Please use the blue Birthday Offering envelopes in the narthex for your gift. As our gift to the congregation, we will be hosting a "Birthday Party" during Coffee and Conversation on Mother's Day, May 8th. Please join us then.

CALLING ALL BAKERS!!! Presbyterian Women will be having a bake sale during the church auction, May 14. Items should be wrapped in salable portions and clearly labeled. You may drop off bake sale items on Friday, May 13th from 9 a.m. to noon or on Saturday, May 14 before 9:30 a.m. so that they can be priced. If you can help on Saturday, please contact Christine Ayres.

TRI-Church Salad Supper Yes, life is getting back to normal!! The Annual Tri-Church Salad Supper will be held at the First Presbyterian Church on **Tuesday, June 7 at 6 p.m.** Call Jean Smith at church or Sara Galloway to sign up before June 1 to reserve your place.

The next PWC Board and general membership meeting is scheduled for **Monday, May 23 at 1 p.m.** in the church library. Please join us then.

--Sara Galloway, Moderator

Hannah Circle met last month in person, and what a joyous time it was! We will be gathering in the library on **Tuesday, May 17, at 12:30 p.m.** BYO lunch and drink, for fellowship. At 1 p.m. we continue our study of Mary, the young mother of Jesus. She not only was a sympathetic figure to women through the ages, but also a model disciple for the followers of her son, as she allowed God to work in her, and pointed others to faith in Jesus. We invite all the women of the church to come join us as we study and fellowship together!

--Deanna Stults, Bible Study Facilitator

Worship

We had a meaningful Maundy Thursday service, where we learned of the service, obedience, and sacrifice that Jesus made for our benefit. We remembered his last supper with his friends by celebrating communion. And at the end of worship, we stripped the church of paraments, vessels, and shiny objects and placed a pall over the communion table as a reminder of the tomb where Jesus' body was laid.

On Easter Sunday we joyfully celebrated Jesus' resurrection with scripture, prayers, hymns, and special Easter music. Jesus fulfilled His promise to go before us, to send His Comforter to guide us, and to prepare our eternal home with God. A special thank you goes to those who gave Easter flowers, decorated the church so beautifully, baked Easter cookies and packaged them so lovingly, and served a delicious snack after church.

--Kathleen Lyon, Chair of Worship and Music

Easter Flowers Dedication

We are grateful for your gift of flowers that decorated the chancel area on Easter morning and beyond.

In Memory of:

--Viola and Robert Babcock and Bonnie Spinnie and Stewart Ayres, Sr. by

Christine and Stewart Ayres

--The Gresly Family and Friends by Lila Back

--Nelson M. Dull and our loved ones by Martie Dull

--Sam Prince and Hazel Plunkett by Jessica Harvath and Sandra Prince

--Larry Heath by Kathy Heath

--Berta Glaser and Berta Schuh by Annemarie S. Kidder

--Lynn Strait, Dorothea and Bob Daly, Linnie McConnohie by Kathy Lyon

--Garry Lines and Walt McFadden by Judy Lines-McFadden

--Don Preston by Joann Preston

--Our deceased loved ones by Bill and Sandi Rothney

--Marjorie and Jared Scheuffele by Harry Scheuffele

--All our loved ones by the Shubert Family

--Ray Smith, Roger Hodge and our loved ones who are gone by Jean Smith, Val Hodge and Family

--To our loved ones who have gone before us by Deanna Stults

--Loved ones by Donna Teichman

In Honor of:

--Pennfield Presbyterian Church by Sam and Jo Van Boven



Property and Finance--May Benefit Auction and New Mowing Crew

Preparations are in full gear for a benefit auction set for **Saturday, May 14 from 10 a.m. to noon in our church's parking lot.** Currently we are looking for [your items or services](#) to be auctioned off. Ten percent of the proceeds will be evenly split between SAFE House (a local shelter for women and children) and our local Northeast Food Pantry.

A professional auctioneer, Claude McMillian, is offering his services to us.

You may bring **small items** to church on any Sunday after worship or during office hours on Monday and Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. **Large items** will accepted the week prior to the auction on Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Donations from Local Businesses:

Myer Chiropractic
Karen Smith, Masseuse
Phil Walters
Family Fare
Great Lakes Ace Hardware
Auto Zone
Besco Water
Pennfield Pizza
Wendys
C-Store
Pennfield Gardens

Items Received so far:

1920 antique trunk; MSU Rose Bowl Jacket; Beanie Baby Collection; Jack LaLanne Juicer w/recipe book included
Armoire; Large Dog Kennel Crate;
Antique Tools; Grinder; Garden Items;
Household Items
Framed pictures; New Hand controlled power Jet Steamer; New electric server w/warming tray
New electric Floor and hand held vacuum; New Cooker/Steamer Pot; Serving Dishes;
Collection of Cook Books



But you may also provide some **services**. Here are services that are already being offered, which may give you an idea of what we are looking for:

- Mystery 1 hour Classic car ride
- Mystery 1 hour Corvette car ride
- 1 hour Massage
- Family Boat ride on St. Mary's Lake
- German three-course meal for four people
- Beauty Make-over

For questions, please contact Lois Shubert or Christine Ayres. Also, if you are able to help on the day of the auction for set-up, serving, and clean-up, please sign up in the narthex.

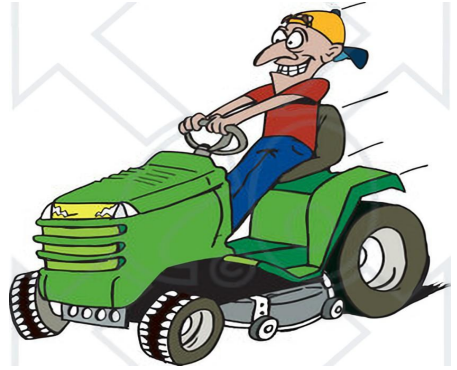
Memorial Garden Update

In May the memorial garden will become open to the public for interring cremains. The availability of our Memorial Garden is being publicized by the local funeral homes and the Shopper paper. We also have now a policy in place to offer both Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary for outside funeral services.

New Lawn Mowing Crew--Thank You!

We welcome to the ministry of maintaining and mowing our five acres of lawn a fabulous new crew. There are several seasoned members that continue in this ministry along with many new ones, which is so very exciting.

Members of the new crew are (in no particular order): Steve Higgs and Mick Shubert (Captains), Steve Phillips, Bill Rothney, Jim Jordan, Mark Baxter, Jesse Boyer, Butch Ayres, Jeff Jarrard, Jesse Harvath, and Dennis Shaffer. Thank you for helping in this way! You guys rock!



If you would like to help with weeding of our flower beds, please let us know.

Thank you also for keeping your pledge current and for paying your per capita.

--Christine Ayers and Lois Shubert, Property and Finance

Livestreamed Worship and Facebook Devotions

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

Deacons' Corner

If you have a prayer request for the deacons' prayer chain, please contact Jessica Harvath, moderator, directly at jessicaharvath1964@gmail.com. All prayer requests are being kept confidential.

Stewardship and Mission: The SHARE Center

Please continue to consider the SHARE Center as a place where we could answer a call to serve in the Battle Creek community. Many other churches are participating at the SHARE Center. Maybe it's working in the resource room by sorting items, such as toiletries, food, or clothing. Or maybe it's making and serving soup. For more information, please go to their website, www.sharecenterbc.org, contact their volunteer coordinator, Kathy Antaya, or contact me directly.

--Marie Hull, Elder and Member of Stewardship and Mission



Northeast Food Pantry News

The Spring Campaign has begun on April 3, 2022 and will run through **Saturday, July 2, 2022**. The Double Match day will be Saturday, June 18, 2022. For every \$10 Simply Give card purchased on this date, Meijer will provide an additional contribution of \$20 bringing the total to \$30 for a single customer purchase. The Neighborhood Food Pantry Ministries partner store is Meijer on Beckley. Northeast Food Pantry is part of this group and benefits from the donations generated from the Simply Give campaigns. Thank you for your generosity and support.

--Laurie Riley, Coordinator

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 4: Sara Galloway

10: Joan Van Orman

12: K. C. Carter

14: Phillip Jarrard

15: Joann Williston

17: Elise Jarrard

18: Franklin Ballard

19: Sandi Rothney; Sue Hagist

22: Lisa Needham

27: Karla Shotts

30: Becki Monroe



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

May 1: Mike and Becki Monroe

7: Marie and Mitch Hull

17: Phil and Elise Jarrard

19: Gayla and Ron Metzger

23: Carolyn and Don Hammond

26: Tom and Laurel Riley

30: Christine and Stewart Ayres

New Church Directory

A new church directory in alphabetical format was sent to you via email. Please note that this directory should be saved on your computer as it is in legal-size format. Hard copies are available at church. Please discard and pick up the **corrected and latest version, which has a blue cover**.

Our 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

Joint Officers Retreat and Self-Study

Elders and Deacons met on Saturday, March 19 to review the Book of Confessions, the Book of Order, and our church's bylaws. We also began the first steps in our self-study by revisiting the church's history, going back to its beginnings in 1961. Since we have more work to do, we will continue this process with another joint officers' retreat for our deacons and elders on **Saturday, May 21 at 10 a.m.**

Members of the Self-Study Team are Sara Galloway, Marie Hull, Kathy Lyon, Laurie Riley, and Lois Shubert. They will be commissioned on **Sunday, May 22** during worship.



Installation of the New Executive Presbyter/Clerk of Lake Michigan Presbytery

A special meeting of Presbytery has been called by the moderator for the installation of the Rev. Fran Lane-Lawrence as new Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk of Lake Michigan Presbytery.

The meeting and service of worship are scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Sunday, May 15, 2022 at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1515 Helen Avenue, Portage, MI 49002 (269) 344-3966.

Teaching elders, designated elder commissioners, commissioners designated to balance the rolls, corresponding members, presenters and staff will be able to gather in person. Advance registration is required via an online form. All others may view the meeting via a livestream video feed that will be available at lakemichiganpresbytery.org.

In-person participants are asked to be fully vaccinated according to CDC guidelines or mask and maintain social distance.