

Pennfield Press

October 2022 Newsletter

Growing in Christ Through Faith, Family, and Fellowship

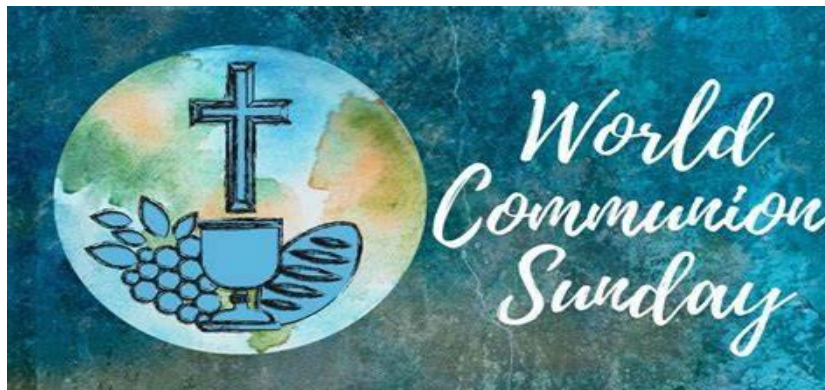
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Find us on Facebook "Pennfield Presbyterian Church"

Dear Friends,

Trees are turning colors and lawns are waiting to be cleared of leaves. These past few days, many volunteers have ushered in fall by deep-cleaning our church. And a brandnew volunteer cleaning crew has signed on for custodial duties. Just look around and see how everything sparkles and shines.



We kick off the month on **Sunday, Oct. 2**, as we celebrate World Communion Sunday, joining Christians worldwide at the table of our Lord. The Sunday was originated by Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA, and it is now a global practice to remember on this day that we are connected to one another through the one who gave his life for us and continues to

be our bread of life, namely Christ.

That day, our **Men's Breakfast will meet at 7 a.m.** The men of our church will eat breakfast in Fellowship Hall and then engage in a Bible study with Pastor Annemarie on the sermon text for the day. All men of the church are invited, and we hope you'll bring a friend.

Starting on **Tuesdays, Oct. 4 at 11 a.m.**, for four weeks, the Rev. Roxie Perry will be leading an adult ed class. The class will address the subject of redemption, what it is and what it means to us as Christians. On **Sunday, Oct. 23**, the Rev. Roxie Perry will also be preaching while Pastor Annemarie is away. We are ever so grateful for Rev. Perry's ministry in our midst.

And on **Sunday, Oct. 30**, we will celebrate Reformation Sunday, the "founding" of the Protestant church. That day we will also have a brief **congregational meeting to vote on the nominees** for officers and members of the Nominating Committee at large, presented by the Nominating Committee and chair, Elder Aaron Jordan.

"So from now on we regard no one according to the flesh," the Apostle Paul says. "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away. Behold, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Cor. 5:16-18). See you in church.

With joy and peace,

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. The Wired Word is the curriculum used, and you will receive the articles with discussion questions beforehand.

The class will meet virtually via Zoom on **Monday, Oct. 3 at 8 p.m.** and in-person in the Church Library on **Friday, Oct. 28 at 3 p.m.** November dates will be determined at our October meetings. If you would like more information about this class, Mark Atma will answer any questions and may be contacted at markatma@comcast.net.

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

We continue the study of *Traveling Mercies* on **Sundays at 11:15 a.m., Parts 4 and 5.** The class meets in person in the sanctuary and online via Zoom. A link will be sent by the previous Saturday.

If you have not yet purchased a copy of the book, you may do so at the local bookstore or online.

The class is facilitated by Pastor Annemarie



--**NEW Tuesday Class on “Redemption” with the Rev. Roxie Perry**

In June, the Rev. Perry offered a four-week “crash course” on the nature of sin, titled “Missing the Mark.” It was well attended. In the month of October, she will offer a **four-week course** on Redemption, Reconciliation, and Salvation as a follow-up. Explored will be the meaning of these key theological terms and concepts of our faith. The class will meet for **four weeks on Tuesdays at 11 a.m.** for one hour in the Church Library. Join us for the kick-off on **Tuesday, Oct. 4.**

--**Ecumenical Bible Study at Second Missionary Baptist Church**

Finally, the Rev. Perry is inviting us to join an on-going Bible study on **Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m.** at Second Missionary Baptist Church at 485 N. Washington Ave. In Battle Creek. This class has been meeting continuously since 2011. Materials and snacks will be supplied. We have been studying the books of the Bible and are about to begin the epistle of 1 Thessalonians. Please join us!

Fellowship and Evangelism



The Fellowship Committee wishes to thank our weekly greeters and those providing refreshments. You certainly make our church a welcoming place of worship. It's great to be back in-person and able to enjoy our fellowship time as well as in-person worship. Please join us for both of these.

Please remember also that 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
Oct. 2	Dennis and Sandra Shaffer	Laurel Riley and Christine Ayres
Oct. 9	Erin and Sara Galloway	Bruce and Karen Newhard
Oct. 16	Mark and Linda Baxter	Mick and Lois Shubert
Oct. 23	Bruce and Karen Newhard	Chris Beaver and Jessica Harvath
Oct. 30	Steve and Jeanette Higgs	Bill and Sandi Rothney

Thank you for making us a welcoming church!

--Sara Galloway, Chair

Presbyterian Women

The 2022-2023 year is upon us and PWC is on the move!! Circle meetings are underway. Our October Mission Project is the Bedding Blitz where we collect new and gently used bedding for Charitable Union. This project will run from **Oct. 1 thru October 30**. Don't have items to donate?? We've got you covered. We are also accepting monetary donations which will be used to purchase NEW pillows for distribution through Charitable Union.

The November Mission Project will be the PW international Thank Offering. Watch in late October for the collection boxes.

Please join us for the next Circle meeting on Oct. 18 at 1 p.m. the Church Library.

PW--All Women--All Together--We Make a Difference!!

Sara Galloway, Moderator



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

Hannah Circle

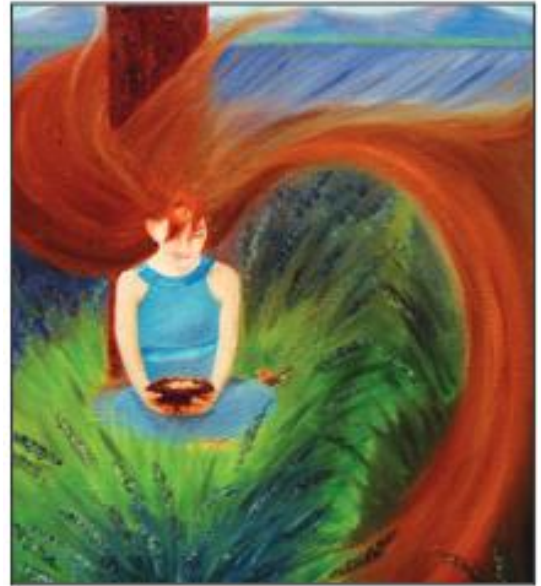
The Hannah Circle will meet this month on **Tuesday, Oct. 18 in the Church Library**. Come at 12:30 p.m. and bring your lunch if you'd like. The meeting will **start at 1 p.m.** We will be able

to listen on DVD to the author's introduction to "Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight," Chapter Two, along with her playing the harp. If you ordered a book but haven't yet picked it up, it will be there.

During the discussion in September, we agreed that though "retired," we are still very busy and need Sabbath time.

The artwork is the representation of Chapter Two, Sabbath and

Creation. The study is authored by Carol Bechtel, professor at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan. For questions, please contact Marie Hull or Deanna Stults.



--Deanna Stults and Marie Hull, Bible Study Facilitators

CROP Walk last month at Leila Arboretum

The Deacons, sponsoring the local CROP walk together with several other churches, raised \$275 so far to help end hunger. Thank you to all who participated and gave so generously!

Twenty-five percent of the money will be split among local programs, incl. The SHARE Center; New Vision Outreach, Second Missionary Baptist Church outreach; Salvation Army Meals, and Urbandale Seventh Day Adventist outreach.



Pledge Update

Our financial secretary, Jean Smith, sent out the latest giving statements. If you did not receive one, please let her know. Thank you for keeping your pledge up-to-date! This will help us budget our expenses for the rest of the year.

Thank you so much for your faithfulness!

Property and Finance

Fall has arrived and with it crisp nights, wet mornings, and leaves gradually falling. I love the colors of fall but feel a little rushed by this season as additional work needs doing.

Our mower crew has done a fabulous job of keeping the grounds beautiful all through the summer. Now they will begin mulching leaves as they mow. With leaves dropping soon, our leaf crew is ready for it.

Thank you for volunteering with our Fall cleaning indoors! Already a fabulous start has been made in removing cobwebs, bugs, and other debris. Areas are sectioned off so no one is going to be overwhelmed with the task. If you would like to add your name to the fall cleaning crew, please see me during fellowship time.

Currently, we have a near full slate of volunteers who will be the regular “cleaning team” throughout the year. Volunteers are responsible for one area only, such as vacuuming or dusting weekly or once a month. Please consider helping out in this fun way and let me know soon.

Finally, we are excited to have Joey Steele on board as our sound/video technician, along with Lois Shubert. He has already served capably all by himself, and we are now learning from him. If you haven’t met Joey, please introduce yourself to him, to his dad, Jeff, and his mom, Trisha. God surely has a way of providing!

--Christine Ayres, Chair of Property and Finance

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.

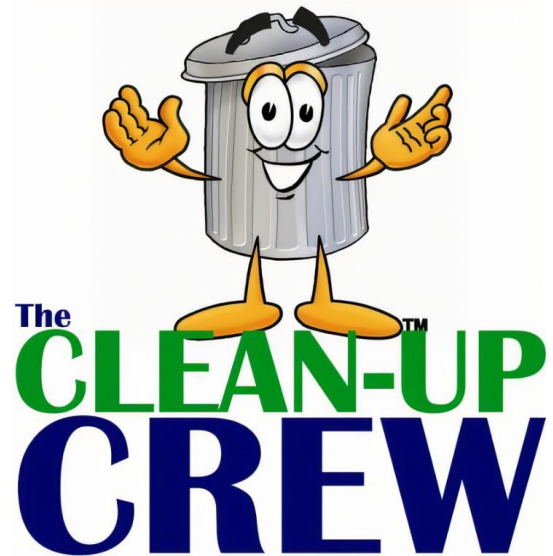
Office Hours are Mo.-Tue. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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.

Men’s Breakfast

The men of the church and friends will meet for breakfast and Bible Study on **Sunday, Oct. 2 at 7 a.m.** in Fellowship Hall.

The group will eat, followed by a Bible study, led by the pastor, on the sermon text of the day.



Worship and Devotions



We livestream worship each week from Pastor Annemarie's Facebook page at 10 a.m. Please leave a comment and like. Each Wednesday the Pastor posts a devotion 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 and Connecting With Our Church Family

The deacons are: Sandi Rothney, Karen Newhard, Harry Scheuffele, Joy Thomas, Carla Stine-King, Lila Back, Jessica Harvath, and Steve Phillips.

Here are the assignments:

Adler-Beaver, Preston, Prince: Sandi Rothney

Boyer-Fleming, Stevens, Baxters: Karen Newhard

Fox-Heath: Harry Scheuffele

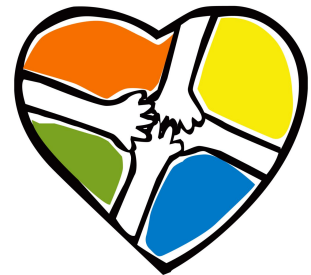
Hewitt-Kidder: Joy Thomas

Lewis-Monroe, Riley, Pierce, Pierson, VanBoven, LaFleur: Carla Stine-King

Moore-Phillips, Perry: Lila Back

Shaffer-Teichman, Rose, Rothney, Hull: Jessica Harvath

Thomas-Yost: Steve Phillips



For prayer requests to the deacons' prayer chain, please contact jessicaharvath1964@gmail.com or by phone. All prayer requests are being kept confidential.

--Jessica Harvath, Deacon Moderator

Self-Study Responses as of Sept. 26, 2022

Thank you for responding to the questionnaire mailed in early September to members and friends of the church. Of the 75 letters mailed we received 28 completed (or partially completed) questionnaires, about 37 percent. Here are the compiled comments to the question of your vision for our church's future:

- We need to be proactive and work on evangelism
- More younger members with families; community outreach and support
- A nearby Presbyterian Village (retirement home) would encourage growth
- Would love to see young families in the church again
- To see it grow and prosper and continue to serve the community and spread the message of the Gospel
- Becoming a church family for all ages
- Continued growth in membership
- Getting more members
- Focus on God's word, mission, and welcoming
- Welcoming non-political atmosphere; caring of members for one another
- Growth, younger families taking interest for themselves and their children; doing more
- Growth, active children/youth program; choir

- Children's program; fellowship/learning groups my age
- Thank you for many wonderful and uplifting years at the church; we are relocating up north
- To find some way to grow our numbers
- Finding a new pastor
- Hopefully it will flourish
- Don't like to see information for Memorial Garden open to public
- More community mission focus, continuing contact with members and friends
- Growth in membership, spirituality, develop financial security
- Growth, children
- Continued mature leadership

What Characteristics Describe the Church?

- Friendly
- Friendly and small church size
- Friendly
- We are a family and love God and one another
- Warm, welcoming, open
- The people, the location, attractiveness and care of the building and landscaping
- Friendly, welcoming
- Open to all
- Very friendly
- Message based on lectionary; welcoming and mission-minded congregation
- Welcoming and friendly congregants
- Friendly, peaceful, warm, spiritual
- A close family of people
- God's family, the welcoming people here
- Church home, small and very active core group; strong leadership; very knowledgeable pastor; membership dying off or leaving; varied and excellent current music program
- Too conservative; not embracing change; dying congregation; loss of members through death or leaving for other places of worship
- Friendliness of the people
- Friendly, welcoming
- Warm and friendly
- Friendly people
- Loving worship family; meaningful and enlightening preaching and teaching
- Welcoming, committed to community
- Fellowship and friendliness, willingness to help others



What are the main reasons you connect to the church? (number of responses)

- Worship 23
- Music 8
- My spiritual development 8
- My friends here 11
- The pastor 13
- Denominational identity 3
- Study and Mission 1
- Fellowship 12



What aspects of worship are most important to you?

--Preaching 25

--Music 12

--Sacraments 10

--Prayer and Meditation 12

--Creed/Affirmation of Faith 2

--Fellowship 10

The Self-Study Committee has scheduled a total of three Small Group Sessions to hear directly from you on what concrete steps you want to take in planning for and living into the future of Pennfield Presbyterian Church. The dates are **Sunday, Oct. 16 and 23 at 11:15 a.m. in the Music Room and on Monday, Oct. 17 at 10 a.m. in the Music Room.**

The SHARE Center

The SHARE Center had a busy summer meeting basic needs, such as hygiene items, backpacks, and blankets. There were 8,446 meals served. New drinking fountains allowed the thirsty to fill bottles with cool, filtered water. In addition, the Center was open as a cooling center for families with 12 days of 90 degrees or warmer.

I asked Kathy Antaya, Volunteer Services Coordinator, what she would like people to know about the SHARE Center that they might not have known. She said that meals are served to anyone who is hungry. Anyone who is hungry. What a concept! What does that mean to you?



For more information, please go to their website, www.sharecenterbc.org, or contact me directly.

--Marie Hull, Elder

Yoga Class on Mondays at 9 a.m.

Our yoga instructor, Amanda Wallace, is back with us for chair yoga at 9 a.m. on Mondays. We meet in the Fellowship Hall. Individual lessons are \$10 per person. You may join anytime.

Northeast Food Pantry News

The food pantry is doing well. The Holiday Simply Give Campaign begins Sunday, October 2, 2022 through Saturday, December 31, 2022. The Double Match Day will be Saturday, December 17, 2022. The Northeast Food Pantry's partner store is Meijer on Beckley.

Also, please keep collecting Family Fare receipts and drop them in the basket in the narthex. Thank you family and friends of PPC. Everything you do for the pantry is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

--Laurie Riley, Coordinator



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October 2: Jane Moore

4: Saskia Phillips

8: Kathy Heath; Kristie Park

14: Ron Metzger

15: Aleigha Elliot

16: Jim Jordan

20: Christy Halbert

24: Kathy Yost; Rick Harvath

25: Christy Cope

26: Jean Smith

27: Justin Pierson; Tyler Pierson

28: Todd Paul

29: Luke Atma

30: Susan Jordan

31: John Goll

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

October 6: John and Tracy Goll

9: Steve and Jeanette Higgs

11: Sandi and Bill Rothney

15: Jay and Sally Moore, Sr.

17: Kevin and Trisha Elliot

24: Jeff and Michelle Jarrard

25: Tom and Karen Lewis



Local Health Fair at First Presbyterian Church of Battle Creek, Sat. Oct. 8

The First Presbyterian Church of Battle Creek will be holding their Health Fair, “Heart in the City,” on Saturday, Oct. 8 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the church, 111 Capital Ave. There will be free food, games, prizes and (mostly) free health services, such as health screening, flu shots, COVID vaccines, and booster shots. Also available will be information on wellness, dental health, safety tips, domestic violence, Medicare, addiction and recovery, mental health, food assistance, shelter, and community resources.

Free Seminars on Physical and Spiritual Health at Urbandale Seventh-Day Adventist Church

The church is offering several seminars in October that are free and open to the public. Topics include the mind/body connection, depression, basic weight tips, and mind-set matters. The sessions will meet on **Monday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m., Tues., Oct. 4 at 7 p.m., Thurs. Oct. 6 at 7 p.m., and Sat. Oct. 8, at 11 a.m.** The presenter is Vicki Griffin, MS, who is a nutritionist and director of Lifestyle Matters.

All sessions are held at the church at 20440 Bedford Rd. in Battle Creek.

To make reservations, please call Ruth Ann at 269-274-7724 or email rcopin@comcast.net.

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