

Pennfield Press

February 2023 Newsletter

Growing in Christ Through Faith, Family, and Fellowship

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www.pennfieldpresbyterian.org

Find us on Facebook "Pennfield Presbyterian Church"

Dear Friends,

Despite the inclement weather, we had a beautiful worship service of lessons, carols, and a meditation on Jan. 8. Thank you, Worship Team and musicians and all who were there! We now are back to our regular schedule. **On Sunday, Feb. 5**, the men will meet for the **Men's Breakfast** at 7 a.m. in Fellowship Hill. All men are invited. Pastor Annemarie leads the Bible study on the preaching text of the day.



Feb. 5 is Communion Sunday. On that day we will also make available **our 2022 Self-Study** that took nearly a year to complete. Each home or household will receive a printed and bound copy.

On Sunday, Feb. 12, we celebrate the **completion of our 2022 Self-Study**. Please bring your copy and follow along as our individual authors will be presenting the portions of the study that they wrote.

After the presentation, we will have a **potluck** with the meat provided by the church. Please

sign up in the Narthex about what you plan on bringing. Also, we want you to **dress up that day in costume** because we will be celebrating **Mardi Gras**. If you don't own a costume, just wear purple, yellow, green, or black and we will provide you with outrageous hats, masks, feather boas, and gaudy necklaces and chains.



On Sunday, Feb. 19, the Session has scheduled the **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** immediately after worship. You will vote on the minutes of previous congregational meetings, hear the reports of Session committees and boards, and receive the 2023 Annual Budget that was approved by Session.

On Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. we celebrate Ash Wednesday with communion and the imposition of ashes. And the following **Sunday, Feb. 26**, the first Sunday in Lent, the Rev. Roxie Perry will be preaching while Pastor Annemarie is away. Wishing you now a joy and peace in Christ,

Pastor Annemarie

Adult Education Classes

--The Wired Word/Contemporary Issues Class



This class addresses topics of current interest in the areas of social, economic, and political areas which are examined through the lens of the Christian faith. You will receive the articles with discussion questions beforehand.

An email will be sent prior to the next class meeting this month. If you would like more information about this class, please contact Mark Atma at markatma@comcast.net.

--Book Study: “Making Sense of the Bible” by Adam Hamilton

On two Sundays in February (Feb. 5 and 19) we will be studying Adam Hamilton’s book, titled Making Sense of the Bible. The class meets on **Sundays at 11:15 a.m.** in the sanctuary and is facilitated by Pastor Annemarie. If you still need a book, you may order it online or from your local bookstore. If you need a Zoom link, please let me know by Friday morning of the week.

Annual Meeting

This year’s Annual Meeting of the Congregation has been set by the Session for **Sunday, Feb. 19** after worship. Annual Reports will be available prior to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on prior meeting minutes, hear the reports of committees and boards, and receive the 2023 budget.

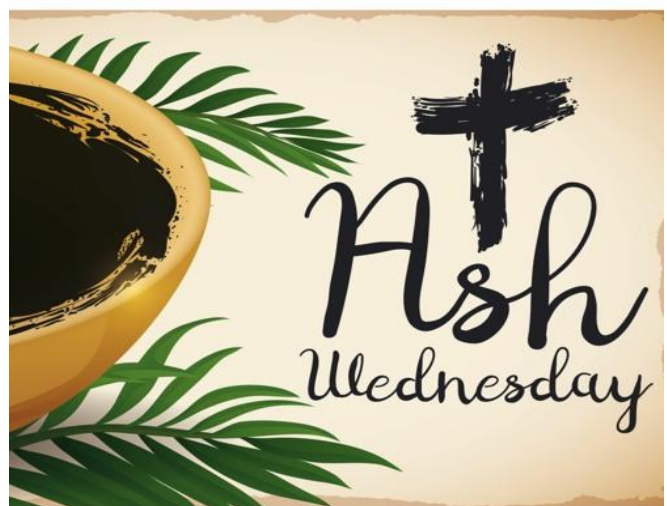
Ash Wednesday Worship

Our Ash Wednesday worship service will be held on **Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m.**

We will be celebrating communion and the ashes from last year’s Palm Sunday will be imposed.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season, forty days of fasting, of doing less, doing with less and taking time out to give up something or to add some service time to our day.

This service will not be live-streamed.





Worship and Music

Happy New Year! The month of January sure went by in the blink of an eye. We had a fabulous Christmas celebration of lessons and carols with Epiphany observed on Jan. 8. And we moved on to Jesus' Baptism and his calling the first disciples during the following two Sundays.

As this is the first time for me to serve as chair of Worship and Music Committee, I would like to say that I am excited about these coming months. There is so much energy that can come through music. And we have four exceptionally talented musicians, along with several great singers.

This past month, I worked closely with Franklin Ballard in operating the electronic Allen organ and coordinating with him playing the piano and singing. I so enjoyed the experience and I certainly felt the Spirit at work in our congregation. So why not use the movement of the Spirit by more often clapping our hands, slapping our knees, and moving and swinging to the music.

And yes, we have also been blessed with a pastor who shares stories that engage and that we can relate to in her preaching. I for my part always want to hear more when she comes to the end of her sermon. That is what we hunger for and need, sermons that make us want to come back for more. I look forward to our future at Pennfield Presbyterian Church. God is Good! Shout To the Lord! A New Day is Coming! And may God give you peace!

--Christine Ayres, Chair

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

February 1: Jeff Steele
2: Ruth TenBroek; Kaylee Tucker
5: Donna Teichman
6: Joan Jarrard
7: Mike Monroe
8: Gayla Metzger
11: Chloe Paul
13: Leon White
14: Dennis Shaffer
26: Lois Shubert; Mark Atma; Don Hammond
27: The Rev. Annemarie Kidder
28: Lois Fleming



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

February 14: Steve and Saskia Phillips
24: Ross and Joan Jarrard

Fellowship and Evangelism

Thanks to all who contributed and/or helped with the Christmas and Epiphany Coffee Hour. We had a great turnout, and everyone enjoyed the time together.



Our next program will be on **Sunday, Feb. 12**, where we will celebrate the completion of our 2022 Church Self-Study. That day we will present an overview of our findings. We will also be having a potluck luncheon at 11 a.m. The church will provide the meat along with coffee and tea.

Please see our sign-up sheets in the narthex and sign up as to what you wish to bring. We will also

need folks to help with setup and cleanup that day.

This potluck will also be an early Mardi Gras celebration, so please dress in costume. Of course, you can also celebrate Valentine's Day or the Super Bowl. We look forward to having everyone join us for this time of celebration!

--Sara Galloway, Chair

Thank you to our greeters and refreshment providers on Sunday mornings.

Greeters

Feb. 5 Jay and Sally Moore

Feb. 12 Bill and Sandi Rothney

Feb. 19 Susan Jordan and Aaron Jordan

Feb. 26 Kathy Lyon and Donna Teichman

Refreshments

Dennis and Sandra Shaffer

Mitch and Marie Hull

Don and Carolyn Hammond

Jay and Sally Moore

Presbyterian Women (PW)

We are a group of women who meet as a board, for activities, and for the Horizons Bible study. We also support several missions locally and globally. We had this year's first meeting on Monday, Jan 16 at 10 p.m. It was a new year and a new beginning with three new members and me as the new moderator. We started the meeting with a meditation on the word "Positivity." What a thoughtful conversation ensued because of this little exercise.

Our next meeting is on **Monday, March 20 at 12:30 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. It will be a potluck and we hope you can bring a dish to pass for about twelve people total. After that we will plan ahead for the next few months.

Our mission for February is the Northeast Food Pantry, which needs canned fruit and toilet paper. You may use the PW containers in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall to donate loose change and bills. Thank you for your generosity.

--Lois Shubert, Moderator

Hannah Circle

We will be studying the lesson from our Horizon Bible Study titled “Sabbath and Servitude,” with readings from Genesis 2:15 and 3:17-19 and Exodus 31:12-18, 35:1-29, 36:1-7. In those passages we see prime examples of bad work and good work. Bad work occurs in the story of the covenant people’s years in servitude, and good work happens in the story of the Tabernacle--the people’s first public works project. (I found this lesson to be very intriguing).

All women of the church are invited to join us, as we gather **Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 12:30 p.m.** in the church library. Please bring your own lunch and drink. Our study begins at 1 p.m.

It is not too late to join this year’s study, as we gather for fellowship, learning and sharing!!!

--Deanna Stults and Marie Hull, Bible Study Facilitators

Our “Membership Fees” to the PC (USA)--Per Capita for 2023



Any church that is part of the Presbyterian Church (USA) pays a “membership fee” based on the number of members. We currently have 103 members and each member will “cost” the church this year \$39.10. This cost is an increase of about 9% based on a cost of living adjustment. The total cost to our church for the year of 2023 is \$,4,027.30.

We would appreciate it if you could pay your per capita of \$39.10 soon. You may add it to the payment of your pledge. Or you may write a separate check. Either way we are grateful if you would help defray the cost of being part of a connectional church.

The Session has endorsed the distribution of the Per Capita funds as suggested by our Presbytery. This means that of the \$39.10, \$9.85 will go to General Assembly, \$3.25 will go to the Synod of the Covenant, and \$26.00 will go to the Presbytery of Lake Michigan. Thank you for your help!

Stewardship Campaign Update

Thank you so much for your 2023 pledge. We have received a great turnout of pledges for the year, but are hoping that we will receive a few more. If you have yet to turn in your pledge card, please do so by mailing it to the church or dropping it in the offering plate. You may also call the church office directly and let our financial secretary, Jean Smith, know how much you plan to give next year.

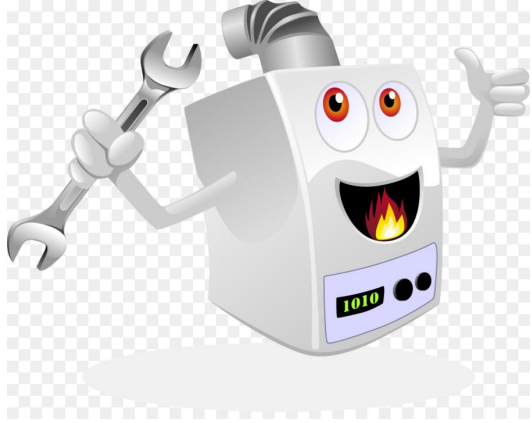
Giving Statements

Oops: sorry about the giving statements that were sent out with only the pledge amounts on it. I am not sure where that came from but I have the complete statements ready and some of you may have already received yours in the mail. The printed statements are at the church for you to pick up on Sunday morning. Please let me know if you any questions by calling the church. Thank you for being so patient.

--Jean Smith, Financial and Office Secretary

Property and Finance

Right before Christmas, we had a problem with our new boiler. Apparently whenever a new boiler is installed in a older building, there could be the older pipes breaking on an account of the increased pressure. Our pipes are 50-plus years old and they are buried in cement. We already had one pipe rupture, which was covered by insurance. Now another pipe broke, which we hope will be covered by insurance as well.



Currently, our boiler engineer has been able to circumvent the ruptured buried pipe by installing new copper pipe that runs into the bathrooms and three smaller classrooms downstairs.

The result of the broken pipe was that there was no heat in the lower level. To prevent debris from entering the costly furnace pump, Shuberts have been attending to the furnace twice a day every day since Dec. 20. They had to monitor the boiler in case it shut off and debris was clogging up the system. At this time, we are making progress and it appears that the new pipes are working and rooms are beginning to heat up to a comfortable temperature. Keep in your prayer the hope that the insurance will cover the labor of our boiler engineer and the material cost.

Another project that was tackled is the downstairs bathroom. It now has a new look and the old peeling paint has been removed while a new coat has been applied to both walls and radiator mantle. It's something Mick and Lois did while waiting for the boiler operation! We were quoted a contractor's bid of \$7,000 some time back, but all we had to spend was lots of elbow grease and about \$100.



A big thank you goes to all our cleaners, both those working weekly and those on an as-needed basis. They are doing a terrific job in keeping God's house sparkling clean. Thank yous also go to all who have cleared the doorways and ramp free of snow. We still could use a few helpers here, so please let me know if interested.

Finally I want to thank all those who have pledged so far toward our 2023 budget. It helps to know how much you plan on giving for this coming year. You can call the church directly or drop a note in the offering plate.

Thank you for supporting our ministries and mission.
--Lois Shubert, Chair



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.

We livestream worship each week from Pastor Annemarie's Facebook page at 10 a.m. Please leave a comment and like while online. 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.

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.

Deacons' Corner

Thank your for your generous contributions to the deacons' fund drive in December. The money collected makes possible our monthly meals at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen, the May Flowers and Poinsettias to members, and the Christmas baskets to adopted families.

At our first meeting of the year, we welcomed new deacons Mark Baxter and Susan Jordan. We are grateful that Mark has taken on the position of treasurer while Susan is serving as our secretary.

We now have new and freshly updated list of which deacon is assigned to which members.
Jessica Harvath will serve: Adler - Carter

Karen Newhart will serve: Cope- Heath

Harry Scheuffele will serve: Hewitt- Metzger

Susan Jordan will serve: Monroe - Riley

Carla Stine-King will serve: Rose - Stevens

Mark Baxter will serve: Stine-King - Walker

Lila Back will serve: Joan Preston, Jay and Sally Moore, Rev.
Roxie Perry and Franklin Ballard

Steve Phillips will serve as our handy man for repairs and running errands and deliveries.

Please contact the deacon moderator if you do not hear from your deacon in the next few weeks. Also, remember that in addition to filling out a prayer card on Sunday morning for the deacons' prayer chain, you may ask for prayers directly by contacting me at jessicaharvath1964@gmail.com. All prayer requests are being kept confidential.

--Jessica Harvath, Deacon Moderator



Northeast Food Pantry News

As has become a pattern, the Northeast Pantry had another busy month providing food for about 700 individuals and lots of diapers to the families in need in our community. Thanks for bringing gifts to the baby Jesus that were placed under the Christmas tree at church which included lots of canned goods, toilet paper, macaroni and cheese, cereal, etc. These items were used to help restock our shelves. We can always use canned vegetables, crackers, canned meat, cereal, bar soap and especially canned fruit and toilet paper.



The Beckley Meijer began the Simply Give Winter campaign on Jan. 1, 2023. There will be two Double Match days on March 4 and 25. The Holiday campaign ended December 31, 2022 and raised \$8,000 which will be divided among the 6 pantries in the Neighborhood Food Pantries ministries. Northeast has been using money provided in food (gift) cards from previous campaigns to purchase margarine, eggs, meat, canned fruit, diapers and wipes for the food pantry. This is another way the pantry receives funds to provide for the pantry. Meijer is a great benefit to the pantries across our community and in Michigan.

Another resource that helps the Northeast pantry is from the Family Fare receipts. We are nearing the end of the most recent collection of \$150,000 in Family Fare receipts. These provide our pantry with \$1000 in cash but take a long time to collect. Please continue saving these receipts for Northeast pantry. We need the whole receipt that says Direct your Dollars. We can only use Family Fare receipts.

Thank you for everything that the congregation of PPC does for the Northeast pantry; volunteers, food and monetary donations, shopping at Family Fare and giving us your receipts, buying Simply Give cards at Beckley Meijer especially Double Match days where a \$10 donation yields a \$20 match from Meijer for a total of \$30, and prayer.

--Laurie Riley, Coordinator

The Session

The Session, composed of six elders, governs every area of ministry in our church. It also oversees the work of the Deacons. The Pastor is the teaching elder who equips, and calls forth by preaching and teaching those willing to hear and respond to God's call in service.



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

Fellowship and Evangelism--Sara Galloway (Chair)

Christian Education--Kathy Lyon (Chair)

Stewardship and Mission--Aaron Jordan (Chair), Lois Shubert (Elder), Christine Ayres (Elder), Mike Monroe (Elder)

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