

# Pennfield Press

## November 2023 Newsletter

*Growing in Christ Through Faith, Family, and Fellowship*

[pennpresBC@gmail.com](mailto:pennpresBC@gmail.com)

[www.pennfieldpresbyterian.org](http://www.pennfieldpresbyterian.org)

Find us on Facebook "Pennfield Presbyterian Church"

---

Dear Friends,

These days I find myself driving around simply to see the trees turned a boastful orange, yellow, and red. Nature's color pallet is the reason fall is my favorite season, even though soon the branches will be stripped bare. This month we will celebrate **Thanksgiving with a potluck meal. On Sunday, Nov. 12**, please bring a dish to pass and we will be providing the turkey and beverages. While at table, we might want to share with one another the things we are grateful for?

The month of harvest and thanksgiving is also the month of thinking about giving back. Our Session has made November a time for giving and thinking about stewardship. It's when we pray about what we wish to return to the Lord this coming year, make our pledges, and commit to supporting our church with our volunteer time, talents, and giving.



Giving back means participating in the life of the church. On **Sunday, Nov. 5 at 7 a.m.**, the men will meet for the **Men's Breakfast** and afterwards study the preaching text of the day with the pastor. It's a great time to get better acquainted and enjoy plenty of laughter and fun.

Please remember that **Sunday, Nov. 5** is also **daylight-savings time**, so you get to sleep in by one hour. That day we will celebrate communion. And at 11:15 a.m., we welcome back **Lawyer Stacey Lott**, who is an expert on elder law. She will share how to make a will, establish a trust, and make sure that your assets will go where you want them to go.



On **Sunday, Nov. 19**, we will continue our adult education series on stewardship and investments. At 11:15 a.m., investment consultant **Jen Harty of Edward Jones** will be presenting ways by which we can wisely invest, save on taxes, and make charitable contributions to the church.

And **Sunday, Nov. 26 is Stewardship Sunday**, where we will offer up our pledge cards to the Lord. On that day, Pastor Annemarie will be away and the Haven of Rest Jail Chaplain Brent Folkema will be preaching. We look forward to having him with us again.

May this month fill you with gratitude and be a time of giving thanks to the Lord, and of giving back. In Christ's love,

Pastor Annemarie

## Adult Education Classes

### --The Wired Word/Contemporary Issues Class

This class is currently on a hiatus through the end of the year. It may start up again in the New Year. If you would be interested in helping convene or facilitate the class, please let Mark Atma know at [markatma@comcast.net](mailto:markatma@comcast.net).

### --Stewardship, Investments, and Last Wills

On two adult education classes in November we are offering tips and advice on how to save taxes while benefiting the church and on how to draw up a will or charitable trust while planning for the future.

**On Nov. 5 at 11:15 a.m.** in the sanctuary Lawyer and elder law expert Stacey Lott will provide help in estate planning. How can you avoid probate, how do you set up a trust, how can you include the church in your will? We are grateful to Ms. Lott for helping us plan ahead.

**On Nov. 19 at 11:15 a.m.,** Edward Jones investment consultant Jen Hardy will provide investment advice that may save you taxes while at the same time benefiting the church. Please take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about charitable giving, required charitable contributions from an IRA, and annuities.



## Fellowship and Evangelism



Our pig roast potluck was a delightful time. Thanks to all who gave time and energy to make the day a great success. We will eat together again for a **Thanksgiving luncheon on Sunday, Nov. 12**. Please bring a dish to pass and some sweet treats. The turkey and beverages will be provided by the church. Please sign up to let us know if you are coming and/or available for set-up and clean-up. And please remember to bring a friend.

We also encourage you to look out for guests and friends in our church. A friendly "Hello" can make a big difference to make them feel welcome and at home.

Thank you to all the greeters and refreshment hosts. You make us a welcoming church. And your hospitality and warmth is very much appreciated.

--Sara Galloway, Chair

### **Greeters**

Nov. 5 Darrell and Marcia VanVleet  
Nov. 12 Joan MacGregor and Martie Dull  
Nov. 19 Christine Ayres and Jean Smith  
Nov. 26 Jim and Susan Jordan

### **Refreshments**

Mark and Linda Baxter  
Thanksgiving Potluck  
Kathy Lyon and Donna Teichman  
Don and Carolyn Hammond

## Stewardship and Mission

This month we give thanks for God's goodness to us individually and as a church. And we give thanks for your faithfulness in seeking to serve Him with your gifts of talent, money, and time.

As a church, we have been blessed with the ability financially to carry out our mission to the community and beyond with energy and love.

We ask that you prayerfully consider the following questions:

What is stewardship to you and what motivates you to give?

These are some answers we have heard:

--Stewardship is giving back of the blessings we receive and being willing to give.

--Stewardship does not count the amount we give but the heart with which we give.

--Stewardship is rooted in gratitude and our awareness of a need being met.

You will soon receive a letter from the Stewardship and Mission committee. Please consider prayerfully how much you wish to contribute to the church for the 2024 fiscal year. We will dedicate our pledge cards on **Stewardship Sunday, Nov. 26.**

“Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son. . . “

--Aaron Jordan, Elder and Chair of Stewardship and Mission



## Property and Finance

We are pleased and grateful to you to share that we exceeded our goal of raising \$11,000 to the boiler repair fund. We received \$14,800, instead. The overage will go to our general fund and rising utilities costs. Thank you again for coming through for us. You all are amazing!



Last month the Session approved a **church-wide rummage sale in May** of next year. So, we are

asking you to start decluttering your basements, closets, and attics and bringing your donations to church. Small items may be brought to church in a box or bag and left in the room next to the Church Library. Please remember that we do not accept clothes at this time. Larger items will need coordinating by contacting either



Lois Shubert or Christine Ayres.

The church rummage sale is a way for us to raise funds. For a few years, we had four groups renting space from us, but today we only have one. We hope to be able to offset the shortfall through this sale.

--Lois Shubert, Chair of Property and Finance



## **Worship and Music**

With the changing weather I hope you will prepare for the cold coming our way while finding warmth in our worship and fellowship time.

As always, I am very grateful for our pastor and worship team. It takes a coordinated effort to serve our in-house and online family. Each week I am encouraged by the team's love and dedication. We really strive to make worship a spiritual experience for you.

A big thanks goes to our talented pianists, namely Paula Krantz-Harris, Gayla Metzger, and Denise Carter, as well as to our amazing Carla Stine-King, who leads us in congregational song and makes us think that we actually sound pretty good.

This month I want to give a special thank you to Gayla Metzger, who plays the piano/organ and sings. She has encouraged individual members to sing solos for special music, brought in additional musicians, and even recruited for us a barbershop quartet. We are so blessed to have you, Gayla!

Lois Shubert and Joey Steele, along with his mom, Trish Steele, are doing an excellent job in working the sound and video system. Lois, we couldn't function properly without your dedication to our church family. Thank you for the many things you do, both seen and unseen! And we look forward to having Joey offer special music for us this month in worship.



Prior to December and the Hanging of the Greens, I would need a few people to help vacuum the sanctuary. Please let me know if you can help.  
--Christine Ayres, Chair of Worship and Music

## **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. The first ten minutes prior to the live broadcast will include announcements, sharing of information, and pastoral prayer requests.



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 posts are also on our church's FB page and remain there.

## **Office Hours: Mon.-Tue. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

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

## Deacons' Corner

Our Deacons sponsored the CROP walk in September. Thank you for your generous contributions of \$300 and to our two walkers. Also thank you to Deacons Susan Jordan and Mark Baxter for overseeing and coordinating the drive.

Here is the list of which deacon is assigned to which members.

Jessica Harvath will serve: Adler - Carter

Karen Newhard 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

If you have a prayer request, please contact me at

[jessicaharvath1964@gmail.com](mailto:jessicaharvath1964@gmail.com).

--Jessica Harvath, Deacon Moderator



## Northeast Food Pantry News

We have been very busy feeding our neighbors in need. An organization called Sprout has begun to provide us with donations of fresh fruits and vegetables bought from area farmers. We also may get some ground beef and gallons of milk from them, which are in high demand.

With the holidays approaching, we welcome donations of boxed stuffing mix, mashed potatoes, canned yams, cake mixes and frosting, boxed puddings and jello. Other items favorite items are mustard, ketchup, mayo, oil, flour, sugar, salt/pepper, and jam/jelly. The pantry can also always use canned fruits/vegetables/soup, peanut butter, cereal, crackers in sleeves, snacks for kids (chips, granola bars, pop tarts, etc.), toilet paper and bar soap.

The next double-match day for the Meijer Simply Give Campaign is Dec.16. Our partner store is Meijer on Beckley. Thank you again for all you do in terms of donations, money, and time.

--Laurel Riley, Coordinator

## Presbyterian Women (PW) and Hannah Circle Bible Study

All women of the church are part of the Presbyterian Women and we have a board to carry out our local activities and mission. Thank you for your generous contributions to the Bedding Blitz. Gently used bedding and pillows will be donated to Charitable Union in Battle Creek.

**On Sunday, Dec. 3** after church we will be decorating the church for Advent and Christmas. Please dress warm if you want to decorate outside, otherwise just stay within the warmth of the church building. The PW Board has raised funds for the purchase of new icicle lights for our gazebo to make it sparkle at night. A soup luncheon with various soups, bread, and dessert will follow. Please sign up for a headcount and join our festive decorating event of **Hanging of the Greens**.

--Lois Shubert, Moderator



**The Hannah Circle** will meet on **Tuesday, Nov. 21 at 12:30 in the church library**. Please bring your own lunch and drink. Our study will begin at 1 p.m. Hopefully you can take a couple hours out of your day, two days before Thanksgiving, as we give thanks and join in fellowship.

Carla Stine-King will be leading our lesson “ A Bleeding Woman Encounters Christ” (Luke 8:43-48 ), where the main idea is that Jesus calls us out of the shadows and claims us as his own. Donna Teichman will begin our study time with devotions, and Marie Hull will share a mission report. All women of the church are invited.

--Deanna Stults, Bible Study Facilitator



### **The PW Advent Tea**

The Presbyterian Women Advent Tea will be held at the **First Presbyterian Church of Battle Creek**. We will meet on **Saturday, Dec. 2 at 1 p.m.** For the program we are pleased to have singers Rebecca Ruscher and James Krause. Refreshments will be served afterwards. All women are invited. The church is located at 111 Capital Ave. in Battle Creek. No reservations are needed.

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Nov . 7: Steve Phillips

11: Sally Moore; Hayden Elliot

19: Noah Brown

20: Erin Galloway; Peter Atma  
Todd Paul, Jr.

26: Laura Nettleton Hart

28: Judy Lines-McFadden

No anniversaries this month



### **The Session**

The Session, composed of six elders and the pastor, governs every area of ministry in our church. It also oversees the work of the Deacons.

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