

Pennfield Press

October 2023 Newsletter

Growing in Christ Through Faith, Family, and Fellowship

pennpresBC@gmail.com

www.pennfieldpresbyterian.org

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Dear Friends,

As the leaves turn color, I am grateful that nothing ever stays the same. We gain in years and perhaps even in wisdom. We become more cautious and less reckless perhaps. We see infants being born and children growing up and moving on. Yes, change adds color to our lives, like the leaves this season, and makes us more aware of God's activity and subtle whisper.



We are kicking off the month with **World Communion Sunday, Oct. 1**. On that day Protestant churches worldwide will meet at table and share the body and blood of Christ. Begun in 1933, this feast now has tens of thousands of churches across the globe participating. At our church, various types of bread and different colored stoles will decorate the communion table, and we will sing hymns from across the globe.

Following worship that day, we will enjoy our pig roast and pot luck. The meat will be provided to us through a generous fund by a

former member, the late Marshall Hlatko. Please bring a dish to pass.

Speaking of contributions, thank you so much for helping us defray the cost of the **boiler repair**. So far **a little over \$4,000** has been given. We hope to raise an additional \$7,000 in order to pay off the repair cost.

The Men's Breakfast will also meet this **Sunday, Oct. 1 at 7 a.m.** The men of the church and friends are cooking their own breakfast and they study the preaching text of the day with the pastor.

Starting on **Oct. 8, the Rev. Tom Ott** will be presenting at 11:15 a.m. on the intersection of spirituality and therapy. His course will meet on three consecutive Sundays in October, and I hope you will make a point in participating.

So let us embrace the change of the season with its new colors and hues and expect the Lord's moves. With joy and peace,

Pastor Annemarie



Adult Education Classes

--The Wired Word/Contemporary Issues Class

This class is taking a break and will reconvene in the fall. If you would like to be notified directly in the future, please contact Mark Atma at markatma@comcast.net.

--Therapy and Spirituality with the Rev. Tom Ott



We will meet at 11:15 a.m. in the sanctuary to hear about a relatively new model of therapy, called Internal Family Systems Therapy. This class will meet for three weeks total, starting on Oct. 8 and ending on Oct. 22. Please bring a notebook.

The Rev. Tom Ott is a retired pastor and psychologist. He lives in Battle Creek Michigan with his wife Patrice, a retired art teacher. Tom was ordained in the United Church of Christ in 1981 and has served churches in New York and Michigan. As a therapist he has worked with adults and couples in community mental health settings and private practice to facilitate healing. He enjoys reading, biking, kayaking, and cross-country skiing, and is a long-suffering Detroit Lions fan.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Oct 4: Saskia Phillips
8: Kathy Heath, Kristi Shaffer
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

Oct 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



Fellowship and Evangelism

As we continue our fellowship activities, I hope you will also consider inviting a friend. We want our church to grow in numbers as well as in faith.

This **Sunday, Oct. 1**, we will have a potluck and pig roast. Please bring a dish to pass and some sweet treats. The meat and beverages will be provided by the church.

Please remember also to use the church's business cards, available on the table in the narthex, to invite friends to worship. It is good to share Christ with others and invite them into our community of faith.



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

Oct. 1 Sandra and Dennis Shaffer
Oct. 8 Erin and Sara Galloway
Oct. 15 Judy Lines and Frank Geren
Oct. 22 Bruce and Karen Newhard
Oct. 29 Christine Ayres and Kathy Lyon

Refreshments

Pig Roast – S. Galloway
Bruce and Karen Newhard
Mick and Lois Shubert
Chris Beaver and Laurie Riley
Sara and Erin Galloway

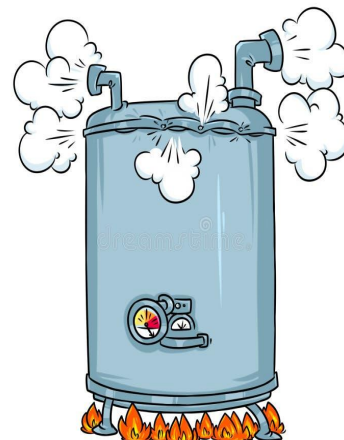
Giving Update

We are grateful for your generosity of your time, talent, and financial contributions. Both our giving and our expenses are holding steady. Remember that you can also give online by going to our website, www.pennfieldpresbyterian.org. A Give Now button will take you to the giving page, where you designate how you wish to give and from where to draw the funds. You can also set up regular contributions by creating a log-in profile. There is also a hyperlink posted on our live worship videos on Facebook that will take you directly to the giving page of our church.

Property and Finance

We are pleased and grateful to you to share that at this time \$4,000 have been donated to the boiler repair fund. All broken pipes have been replaced and heat pumps been installed. Since we still owe \$7,000 in obligations, we trust God to provide. Please mark your contributions "Boiler Fund."

--Lois Shubert, Chair of Property and Finance





Worship and Music

I know that our pastor and the worship team are giving their all in providing us with meaningful and spirit-filled worship services. Thank you, team! I am especially grateful to Mark Baxter, who filled in for me for the past two months while I was away. Mark has faithfully blended in the prayers and lyrics in my absence and for that I am ever so grateful. You, Mark, are a blessing and I so appreciate the fact that you have always helped out whenever there was a need.

While away, I couldn't always watch the live service due to a weak internet connection. But since the videos stay active online, I was able to watch later on. To do so simply go to

Pastor Annemarie's Facebook page or to that of our church, and you can watch the service there.

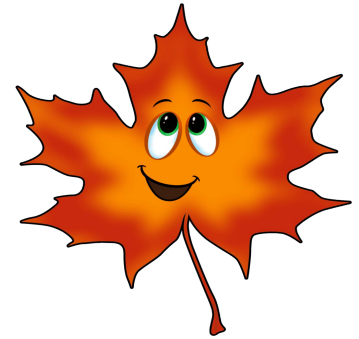
Please remember to click "like" or leave a message to help us know you are watching as this counts for worship attendance. You might share the worship service on a friend's timeline. Please ask me if you are unsure about how to do that.

Some weeks I watch the worship service several times. Why not do that too? For you may be touched even more the second time around.

Also, a big thank you goes to our cleaning crew who is doing a fabulous job. We'll be in touch with you shortly.

May God bless you now and keep you.

--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 last month. Thank you for your generous contributions and to our walkers, Deacons Susan Jordan and Mark Baxter, who also oversaw the drive.

We are also please to report that the **Salvation Army** is providing us with the meat for **our monthly meal on the fourth Tuesday of the month**. Every month our volunteers of Pennfield Presbyterian Church purchase, prepare, and cook meals for up to 150 people.

Currently, we are hoping to partner up with one other church who might wish to help underwrite this mission in our local community. We trust that God will lead us to that church and in fact may already have done so.

Here is the 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

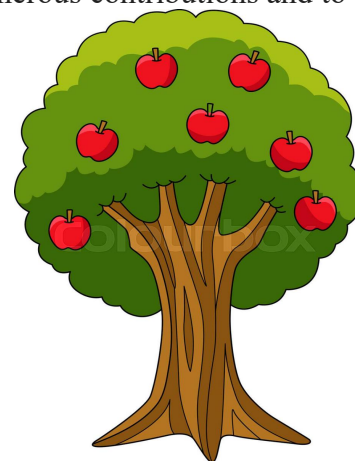
Susan Jordan will serve: Monroe - Riley

Carla Stine-King will serve: Rose - Stevens

Mark Baxter will serve: Stine-King - Walker

If you have a prayer request, please contact me at jessicaharvath1964@gmail.com.

--Jessica Harvath, Deacon Moderator



Northeast Food Pantry News and Food Pantry Trailer



The trailer you see in our parking lot belongs to the Northeast Food Pantry. It has been used for many years to pick up food from the Food Bank of South Michigan. Eric Eisen had it made to carry produce from his brother's farm near Watervliet to the five food pantries here in Battle Creek. When he was no longer able to make the trip, he donated the trailer to the pantries. It will continue to be used each week to bring food to the Northeast Food Pantry and has now found a home here.

Northeast Food Pantry News

The Northeast Neighborhood Food Pantry is very grateful for all that our church does, such as food donations, money donations, and volunteer time. You are a great help to our mission in providing food for our neighbors in need.

Currently the Northeast Pantry can use donations of bar soap, cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, crackers (those packaged in sleeves), spaghetti noodles, and sauce.

Thank you for your help!

--Laurie 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. Our first fall meeting of this year is at noon on **Monday, Oct. 16** in Fellowship Hall. It's going to be a potluck, so please bring a dish to pass and join us. We will be planning for the year and would love to hear your ideas.

Scheduled for this

month also is the Bedding Blitz.

We are currently collecting new and gently used bedding. New pillows are \$4.00 each as a donation and we will purchase them. The bedding goes to the Charitable Union in Battle Creek. Please drop off your bedding on the little bed outside of Fellowship Hall.

--Lois Shubert, Moderator



The Hannah Circle will meet on **Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 12:30 in the library**. Please bring your own lunch and drink. Our study will

begin at 1 p.m. with Lesson Two, titled "The Exorcism in Gerasa"

(Luke 8:26-39). The main idea of this lesson is that Jesus' presence and human vulnerability can result in a personal and communal transformation. Please come join us as we study and fellowship together!

--Deanna Stults, Bible Study Facilitator

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

