

Pennfield Press

May 2024 Newsletter

Growing in Christ Through Faith, Family, and Fellowship

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Dear Friends,

During this Easter season I am reminded that "Christ plays in ten thousand places." The line comes from a poem and is also the title of a book by Eugene Peterson, editor of The Message. To me it means that Christ can be present in the most unlikely places, in locations where I do not usually expect him. It also means that I can hear Christ playing, sounding a tune that delights and makes me skip and jump and dance. Finally, Christ can be visible in the places that are familiar, that are part of my daily and weekly routine. Where do you detect Christ, where do you hear him play his tune?

This month we begin with communion on **Sunday, May 5**. It's also the day of the **Men's Breakfast**, where the men cook their own breakfast and afterwards study the preaching text of the day with the pastor. On that day, our pianist **Denise Carter** will present during the adult education hour tips on how to prepare meals that prevent disease. She will also bring more recipes on healthy cooking.

On **Sunday, May 12**, we celebrate Mother's Day by being grateful for all mothers, including our own and all those who are like mothers to others. We are grateful to the generous donor who will be providing flowers for each woman in the church.

On **Sunday, May 19**, the Easter season comes to a close with the feast of Pentecost. Jesus had ascended to the Father a week earlier and now the Father and the Son are pouring out the gift from heaven, a new form of manna and bread, namely the Holy Spirit. Be sure to dress in red and be prepared to be actively welcoming the Spirit of the living God.



And on **Sunday, May 26**, we celebrate the Holy Trinity, a God who appears in three forms yet in essence is all One.

Let us be on the lookout for Christ playing in places well familiar to us as well as in those places we may not typically expect him.

Pastor Annemarie

Adult Education Classes

On Sundays at 11:15 in the Sanctuary:

--May 5 **“Healthy Cooking and Ways to Prevent Disease”** Our pianist Denise Carter will present again on healthy eating and cooking. Denise is a trained dietician with advanced degrees in dietary science and has worked for over thirty-five years in various hospitals in that capacity. We are fortunate that she is offering her expertise and talents in this way and I trust you will take advantage of this learning opportunity.

--May 12 **No Class**

--May 19 and 26 **“The Apostle Paul”** Pastor Annemarie will conclude the series on the Apostle Paul and the letters written to the various churches he may have founded.

Men’s Breakfast

How about a hot breakfast to start your Sunday morning? Yes, we have good chefs in the kitchen on Sunday, May 5 at 7 a.m. Mick Shubert is the coordinator and would like to see all men come together and enjoy breakfast and have a short Bible Study with Pastor Annemarie. The subject is the scripture for Sunday morning, so study early and see how it plays out later on in the sermon and worship. If you have never attended just be there by 7 a.m. Hope to see you there. Our regular attendees will get a reminder call.

--Mick Shubert



Worship

We will be celebrating **Pentecost on Sunday, May 19. Please wear something red.** We also hope to have available some streamers to take home as a reminder of the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

And looking ahead, it is exciting that we will be sponsoring a concert and meditative worship service on **Sunday, June 9 at 2 p.m.** to be held at Pennfield Presbyterian Church. Dr. Carl Witt, music director at the First Presbyterian Church of Battle Creek will be coordinating the choirs and anthems, while Pastor Annemarie will be putting together the service with Scripture readings, prayers, and congregational hymns. We look forward to having Westlake Presbyterian Church and Ceresco Baptist Church joining us again for this worship experience. Perhaps this could be an annual event.

The theme of this service will be the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers and in the church.

--Harry Scheuffele, Elder and Chair of Worship

Fellowship and Evangelism

Thank you to all who are providing refreshments after worship. We certainly had some fine offerings. Also a big thank you goes to those who worked in the yard for our work bee this past month and to the women of PW who provided a potluck lunch.

Please remember to invite people to worship. One easy way is to have a few church business cards on you to hand out. Are you asking people “Where do you go to church?” or “Do you have a church you attend?” Welcome them to come and visit. Let them know we are a friendly church family who enjoy worshipping God and being together. Cards are in the narthex. Why not brag a bit about our church?



Upcoming Happenings

The Joint Presbyterian Women Salad Supper is Tuesday, June 4 at 6 p.m. at The First Presbyterian Church. The speaker will be our Pastor Annemarie Kidder. Her topic is “American Empress: Marjorie Merriweather Post.”

Mark your calendars. June 23, and August 11. Potlucks are planned for these Sundays. We will post signup sheets closer to the dates. These too are good times to invite people to church.

May 18 Pennfield Gardens - hosting a Hosta Heaven Class. Presented by Marty Overhisor. plus you'll be given a baby hosta to take home with you.

June 7 Cereal City Parade 6:30-7:30 Downtown starting at Kool Family Center

June 8 Cereal Festival Downtown Battle Creek

June 9 Concert at Pennfield Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. The Chancel Choir of the First Presbyterian Church together with others will be offering a worshipful service with readings, prayers, hymns, and anthems about the Holy Spirit.

Greeters

May 5 Mark and Linda Baxter

May 12 Judy Lines-MacFadden and Frank Geren

May 19 Karen and Bruce Newhard

May 26 Don and Carolyn Hammond

Refreshments

Darrell and Marcia VanVleet

Christine Ayres - PW

Kathy Lyon and Jean Smith

Christine Ayres and Jean Smith

Stewardship and Mission

On Saturday, April 20, the 2023 session minutes were reviewed by Lake Michigan Presbytery to ensure clarity and accuracy. A special thanks to Kathy Lyon for attending this meeting in my stead. The good news is that we passed our audit and are all set for the next annual review.

Thank you for your faithful giving. We rely on your financial contributions to balance our budget and continue the important work and mission of the church.

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

--Aaron Jordan, Clerk of Session and Chair of Stewardship and Mission

Membership “Dues” to Our Denomination, PC(USA)



Please remember that the church is required to pay annual membership dues, or per capita apportionment, for every member on our rolls. **The current membership due is \$40 per person per year.**

Please know that this amount is separate from your regular giving and pledge. We appreciate receiving your contribution to help us defray the cost of being a connectional church. Please mark your check “per capita.”

Office Hours

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.

Worship: In-Person and Via Facebook Live

If you attend worship 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.



Property and Finance

Please remember our **church-wide rummage sale to be held on May 9, 10, and 11.** On Saturday, May 11, from 9 to noon, you may purchase anything by simply making a donation.

We are still taking items for the sale. Please bring them to church on **Sunday, May 5**, or contact Christine Ayres and me for bringing items on other days. We are also looking for donations of perennials.



Items are arriving daily, such as puzzles, household items, snow blower, books, bedding including duvets, sheet sets for all sizes that are commercially laundered and ready to use; also available will be annual flowers, plants in unusual containers, perennial plants, and even blue bird houses.

We also sell myrtle, donkey tail, and ajuga plants. Let me know if interested.

Bring a friend and enjoy shopping and something sweet from our bake sale.

--Lois Shubert, Chair

Northeast Food Pantry News

The Meijer Simply Give spring campaign is in full swing now. The Double Match Day will be Saturday, June 15, 2024. This means that your \$10 donation is matched by \$20 from Meijer for a total of \$30. The pantry is always in need of toilet paper, fragrance free baby wipes, canned fruits, vegetables, soup and meat. We can also use canned goods that have pull top tabs for our homeless population. Thanks for all you do.

--Laurel Riley, Coordinator

Deacons' Corner

Just a reminder that your Deacons are here for you at any time. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Listed below are the Deacons and their assigned church families.

Sandi Rothney will serve Adler - Beaver

Karen Newhard will serve Boyer- Goll

Joan MacGregor will serve Halbert-Jarrard

Jessica Harvath will serve Jordan-Metzger

Susan Jordan will serve Monroe - Prince

Carla Stine-King will serve Riley- H. Smith

Luanne Pierson will serve J. Smith-Thomas

Mark Baxter will serve Trayer- Yost



If you have any prayer requests or needs, please reach out to Susan Jordan at dancerj@sbcglobal.net or Karen Newhard at newhardkl@gmail.com

--Susan Jordan and Karen Newhard: Deacon Co-Moderators

Presbyterian Women (PW) and Hannah Circle Bible Study

The Presbyterian Women sponsored a **work bee** on Monday, April 22. Volunteers worked in our yard mowing, picking up sticks, weeding, cutting bushes, and trimming. Inside the church we set up tables and priced items. The best part was that 19 people came to work and could enjoy a wonderful potluck lunch afterwards sponsored by the women. Thank you everyone who helped! We appreciate you.

After lunch we had our PW board meeting and planned a few surprises for Mother's Day and Father's Day to make them extra special. Hope to see you in church!

The Hannah Circle will meet on **Tuesday, May 7 at 12:30 p.m. at Northside Senior Living**. For more information, please contact Deanna Stults.

--Lois Shubert, Moderator

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 4: Sara Galloway

10: Joan MacGregory

14: Phillip Jarrard

15: Joan Williston

17: Elise Jarrard

19: Sandi Rothney

22: Lisa Needham

28: Joey Steele

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

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--Christine Ayres (Chair), Kathy Lyon (Elder)

Christian Education--Kathy Lyon (Chair)

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

Worship and Music--Harry Scheuffele (Chair), Christine Ayres (Elder), Aaron Jordan (Elder), Lois Shubert (Elder)

Administration and Personnel--Lois Shubert (Chair), Christine Ayres (Elder), Kathy Lyon (Elder)

Clerk of Session: Aaron Jordan

Moderator: The Rev. Dr. Annemarie S. Kidder