

# Pennfield Press

## July/August 2024 Newsletter

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

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

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

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Dear Friends,

Even though we combine this newsletter for both July and August, there are still plenty of happenings. I'm especially grateful for a baptism this month, where we as a congregation are invited to affirm our baptismal vows. Think for a moment what your baptism means and how you would explain it to someone who is not a Christian. What do the waters of baptism symbolize? And what are the words spoken over those undergoing it? If you are unsure, I hope you will be present in worship for this sacred event.



**On Sunday, July 7**, we remember the founding of our nation along with celebrating communion, which is typically held on the first Sunday of the month.

**On Sunday, July 14**, two new members will be joining the church. Joanne Policella found our church while visiting our church rummage sale and was introduced to more than just the goods for sale. Patti Holmes has been away from our church for many years, but has now moved back to Battle Creek and back into our community of faith, where she has many friends already. It will also be **Baptism Sunday**, where we reaffirm our own baptismal vows in renouncing evil and embracing the good in Christ.

**On Sunday, August 11**, we will meet for a potluck after worship. Please sign up as to what you wish to share, be it a main dish, a salad, or some dessert.

And on **Sunday, August 18 at 11:15 a.m.**, **Denise Carter**, our resident professional dietician, (who is also one of our two pianists) will offer another class on Healthy Cooking and Eating, along with tips "on when and what to snack." These classes have been well attended, and we are so grateful that she is teaching us healthy eating habits.

Please note that I will be gone toward the end of July and Chaplain Brent Folkema will be preaching on **Sunday, July 21**. We are so fortunate to have him with us again!

May the balmy summer months with its sun-filled days suggest to us regularly the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, which lends us energy for doing Christ's work in the world.

With joy and peace,

Pastor Annemarie



## Fellowship and Evangelism

The joint PW Salad Supper last month at the First Presbyterian Church was great. Our speaker was Pastor Annemarie Kidder, who spoke about the life of Marjorie Merriweather Post, the daughter of J. W. Post, founder of the Postum Cereal Company. Following her father's death, she inherited the company and built it up to become General Foods, making her one of the wealthiest women and one of the first business women in the United States. About sixty women attended the event.

The Joint Concert and Hymn Sing last month was also a great success with over 70 people in attendance. We are grateful to Dr. Carl Witt and the Chancel Choir of the First Presbyterian Church of Battle Creek for the marvelous music and anthems. And we look forward to another joint concert sometime this year.

Our Father's Day surprise treats were root beer floats and Boston coolers. A big thanks to the Presbyterian Women, who hosted the event.

Nearly 80 people attended the memorial service in June for our beloved Elder Kathy Lyon. Thank you to all who helped prepare, brought dishes, served, and cleaned up. We sent home food with the family, which they greatly appreciated.

Please keep in mind that on Sunday, July 14 we will have a new member reception after worship for Joanne Policella and Patti Holmes. Be sure to welcome them into our family of faith.

On Sunday, August 11, we will enjoy a potluck after worship; sign-up sheets will be posted.

And on Sunday, Sept. 8, we plan to attend Clara's on the River after worship for Sunday brunch.

### Other Happenings of Interest

July 4-7 Field of Flight Air Show & Balloon Flight

July 13-14 "Welcome To My Garden" Tour Marshall, MI

July 20-21 Battle Creek Garden Tour

Every Friday in July & August--Free Vibe @ 5 Concert Series at Friendship Park (10 State St in Battle Creek) from 5-7:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair, water, and snacks to hear different types of music.

Please remember to invite people to worship and to one of the many fellowship opportunities we offer.  
--Christine Ayres, Chair Fellowship/Evangelism

### July Greeters

July 7 Darrell and Marcia VanVleet

July 14 Sandi and Bill Rothney

July 21 Don and Carolyn Hammond

July 28 Karen and Bruce Newhard

### August Greeters

Aug. 4 Judy Lines-McFadden and Frank Geren

Aug. 11 Steve Phillips and Steve Higgs

Aug. 18 Mike and Beckie Monroe

Aug. 25 Jean Smith and Mick Shubert

### July Refreshments

Bruce and Karen Newhard

Joan MacGregor and Jean Smith

Jessica Harvath and Joann Preston

Martin and LuAnne Pierson

### August Refreshments

Christine Ayres and Chris Beaver

Potluck

Joan MacGregor and Debbie Trayer

Darrell and Marcia VanVleet



## Property and Finance

Many thanks to our gardeners who last month pulled weeds in the church's flower beds and dug up intrusive plants. We continue to have colorful bloom all around the church. Also a big thank you to the mowing team, composed of Steve Higgs, Steve Phillips, Bill Rothney, Jim Jordan, Mark Baxter, Jeff Jarrard, Jesse Harvath, Dennis Shaffer, Butch Ayres, Marty Pierson, Frank Geren, and Mick Shubert.



I also want to thank the families who have added attractive accent flowers to our Memorial Garden. Just take a walk over there sometime and take in the serene beauty of the place.

The Memorial Garden is open to members, relatives, and the public. We also offer customized granite stone markers for a designated plot, if so desired. You might consider purchasing a plot for yourself or a member of the family. For more information, please pick up a brochure, visit the shadow box outside Friendship Hall, or talk to me personally about arrangements and prices.

Last month, our Fellowship Hall was rented to two different parties for graduation open houses. Keep in mind that the church facilities are available for rent to both members and the public.

Throughout the spring months, we also rented our building to a yoga class. The yoga class will kick off again in September and meets on Mondays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. It is being taught by Amanda Wallace Rasmussen. Consider joining us in September!

Finally, I want to give a big thank you to all our volunteer cleaning crews who are keeping the church sparkling clean.

--Lois Shubert, Chair of Property and Finance

## Stewardship and Mission

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.** 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 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 for the upcoming sermon.



## Northeast Food Pantry News

Now that school is out, the numbers at the pantry seem to be picking up even more. We are always in need of boxed cereal, toilet paper, bar soap, toothbrushes/toothpaste, fragrance free baby wipes, canned fruit, crackers, and peanut butter.

We are blessed that Sprout continues to give us fresh produce, milk and hamburger weekly.

The next Meijer Simply Give campaign begins **Sunday, June 30** and runs through **Saturday, Sept. 28**. Two Double Match Days are on, Saturday, Aug. 17 and Saturday, Sept. 14.



Thanks for all you do in helping to feed our neighbors in need.

--Laurel Riley, Coordinator

## Deacons' Corner

While summer is often a time for travel and other events, know that your Deacons are always here for you. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with comments or special needs. 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, please contact Susan Jordan at [dancerj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dancerj@sbcglobal.net) or Karen Newhard at [newhardkl@gmail.com](mailto:newhardkl@gmail.com)

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

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July 1: Bill Rothney  
2: Aidan Tucker  
9: Margaret Link  
11: John Baxter; Linda Baxter;  
Debbie Trayer  
29: Jay A. Moore, Sr.  
30: Laurel Riley

August 1: Harry Scheuffele  
2: Rebecca Elliot  
5: Stewart Ayres; Marie Hull  
9: Jenna Atma; Kevin Elliot  
13: Bruce Newhard  
16: Steve Higgs  
20: Ross Jarrard  
26: Martin Pierson  
29: Chris Beaver; Andrea Paul  
30: Betty Fox



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

July 8: Mark Atma and Ruth TenBroek

Aug. 11: Debbie and Dennis Trayer  
19: Todd and Andrea Paul  
20: Bruce and Karen Newhard



## The Session

The Session, composed of six elders and the pastor, governs every area of church ministry, including the work of the deacons.

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

Fellowship and Evangelism--Christine Ayres (Chair)

Christian Education--

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),

Clerk of Session: Aaron Jordan

Moderator: The Rev. Dr. Annemarie S. Kidder