

Happy  
New Year

JANUARY 2019

# presbyterian *profiles*

## A Place for All, Construction Update

After months of careful planning and prioritizing, our renovation/construction project is finally under way. At its December meeting, the Session approved entering into a contract with Lakewood Construction for an amount not to exceed \$1,291,808.

This will allow us to implement the base project described in the blue "A Place for All" capital campaign booklet plus the other 3 priorities described there. In other words:

### Base project (Priority 1)

- New accessible north entrance with airlock and exterior canopy for sheltered drop-off
- Coat room at the north entrance
- Enhanced narthex with new furnishings, carpet and paint

*Continued on page 10*

### ON THE COVER

Bless this year  
with love and light.  
Bless this year  
with faith and sight.  
Bless this year  
with grace and ease.  
Bless this year  
with joy and peace.  
-Mary Davis

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youth@fpcholland.org



Rev. Linda Knieriemen  
Pastor

## Intentional Noise

One of my best childhood holiday memories is being in Philadelphia on New Year's Day for the Mummers Parade. My grandfather's employer allowed his staff and their families to look down on Broad Street as the parade went by. There is nothing like a Mummers band! The musicians dress in elaborate and colorful costumes making each musician appear at least twice as tall and wide as they are. Their music is loud! It's noisy enough that the strains of music reached up to the sixth floor where we were perched inside on the window sills. The folk tunes are played on saxophones and strings, banjos, accordions, violins, glockenspiels and bass violins. The Mummers don't just march, they dance and give the impression that they are having great fun. Perhaps that's what appealed to me as a child: lively music, colorful costumes, and choreographed dance. It's simply delightful, totally unique, and in my childhood memories... NOISY! Perhaps that's why, even now, my memories of those New Year's Day events remain strong.

Why share this memory with you? I'm thinking about noise in 2019. We are due for some clanking, banging, and drilling in the coming weeks and months as the **Place for All** building project gets underway. (Sound proof ear phones anyone?) We've been talking about this for more than a year, and finally, on February 16, we are underway! We're in for some real noise! Productive, intentional, and purposeful construction noise.

As I think about the year ahead, I'm pondering another kind of noise. As a congregation in this community, I sense that we're comfortable keeping the volume down; we are reserved about telling people who we are, what unique place we have in the Christian environment in Holland, and most importantly, why anyone would want to be part of this faith community. We aren't comfortable with that classic Holland question "what church do you go to?". Our Capital Campaign consultant, John Laster, believes we are the "best kept secret in Holland" and suggests that there are many folks in the area who would appreciate our flavor and expression of Christianity, particularly our worship, our friendliness and our inclusion of LGBTQ folks. He suggested we might even think about a billboard!

I'm not sure about a billboard, but then, why not? I believe John was saying that we need to get noisier about who we are, and that if we do, we'd have fewer empty seats on a Sunday morning. But not only that. There are folks seeking a church community like us but who don't know it exists in greater Holland and are praying to find us.

In 2019, at Session, with staff, and on Sunday mornings, I'll be encouraging us to get noisier about that subject Presbyterians so often shy away from: the "E" word. Evangelism — FPC style.

Do I hear an AMEN?!

Linda



Rev. Katherine Culpepper  
Temporary Associate Pastor

## Journey through Time

Do you ever feel like there aren't enough hours in the day to do everything you need to do?

I recently learned that if we had lived 1.4 billion years ago, our day would only have been 18.68 hours long. This is a discovery of University of Wisconsin Professor Steve Meyers using an "ingenious mathematical analysis of the cyclostratigraphy of the Xialiang Formation in China." My husband, (an alumnus of UW with degrees in Geology) tells me this means the earth is slowing down on its axis.

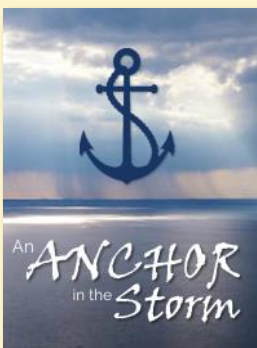
We may have more hours in the day than we would have had 1.4 billion years ago, but it seems like there is always more to do in a day (or a year) than will get done. After a year with you I am struck by and grateful for the fact that you are a group who doesn't get stuck worrying over who you aren't or what you can't do.

Rather, you acknowledge needs and work thoughtfully and patiently together to address them. What a gift it is to be with people who always seem to have all the time in the world. I look forward to continuing our journey together as we pray for the work of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee and prepare for the arrival of your new Associate Pastor.

The philosopher/teacher/preacher wrote in Ecclesiastes, "For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven." May 2019 be a year filled with meaningful matters for our FPC family.

Happy New Year!  
Cully

## 2019 WOMEN'S RETREAT / February 22-24, 2019



Does it sometimes feel as if the gale force winds of any day's world events, alongside the harder realities of our personal lives, buffet you between despair and hope like a tiny boat on high seas?

Following the example of Jesus, retreat time invites you to step away from your daily life, your high seas, into a protected time and place to attend to God, our Divine Anchor.

The women's retreat, ***An Anchor in the Storm***, is such an opportunity; a time to look at what we face with a clearer eye, time to begin discovering faithful and constructive responses according to our gifts and calling, and a time to practice reaching for our sources of hope. ***Come away to be nurtured and anchored in***

Registration  
Deadline is  
February 8

*The annual Women's Retreat will begin Friday evening and end at noon on Sunday. Informational brochures may be picked up from the rack on the Welcome Desk.*

**LOCATION:** Geneva Camp and Retreat Center, Holland, MI

**COST: \$160 per person** (scholarships available upon request)

Cost includes: two nights lodging in a shared room, three meals on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday.

**SPEAKER:** Rev. Mary Van Andel

**QUESTIONS:** Bonnie Cowie at 616.786.2465 or [dbcowie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dbcowie@sbcglobal.net)





## Worship Center: *Keeping in Touch*

Blessing others and feeling blessed...  
Over the past two months, our children have been the recipient of gifts and were given the opportunity to give to others in need.

With the Worship Center offering, our children chose to make "Abby's" Christmas happier. We adopted Abby from the Child Advocacy Center; the children chose what gifts we should provide; they were purchased and delivered to the CAC. One kiddo commented "I'm hoping she thinks we care about her." Yes, we do.

The quiet toy baskets in the back of the Sanctuary have had a recent "uplift." Kids... check out all of the new opportunities for quiet/busy/fidgety play while in the Worship Service. One of our FPC Members chose to gift you; we are grateful.

All three Worship Centers gathered together the last Sunday before winter break to decorate Christmas cookies and to receive gifts from the Celebrants. It is heart warming to see how they take care of each other and are welcoming to all. We are excited to have two new friends in our WC – welcome Luke and Jesse!

In January, we will be moving two of our WC to the main level in anticipation of construction. We will keep in touch with our WC families about where we will be and when.

Our children are following Christ's Light,

Lori Klinesteker  
Children's Ministry Leader



Painting plates during Parents Day Out.



## 2019 Stewardship Campaign

Thanks to all for your participation in this year's Stewardship Campaign.

- For your support of service
- For your financial commitment
- For your Reverse Stewardship stories
- For your prayer

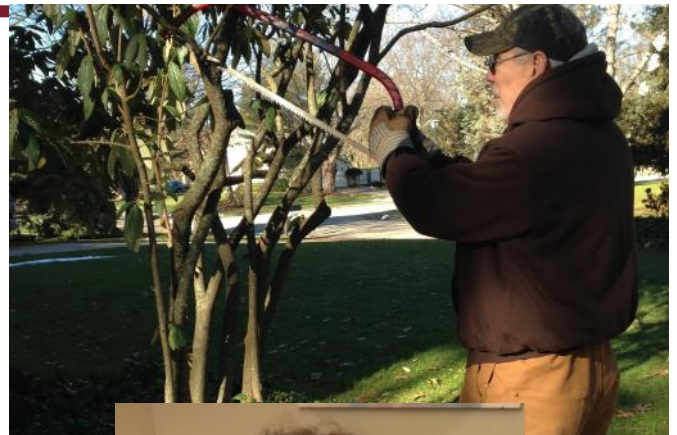
*You are a Blessing!*



## Deacon Update

On December 8, the team of deacons at FPC hosted our annual Christmas brunch for seniors. Approximately 50 friends joined us for great food, fellowship, and entertainment. We were treated to a live musical concert performed by Larry and Carla each playing four handbells at once. Quite lovely and unique!

Don't forget about the deacons' new organization into care teams. With assistance from volunteers in the congregation, we can assist with, for example, arranging transportation or bringing in meals to those in need.





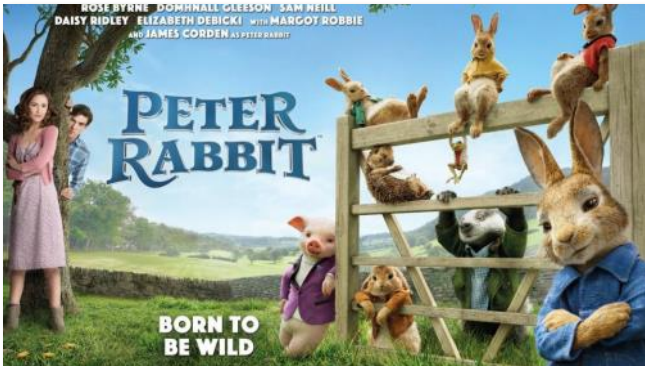
# SAVE THE DATE



## BLANKET COLLECTION

### Month of January

Help keep Holland warm! There are many members of our Holland community who need help to keep warm this winter. During the month of January, Outreach Council is collecting blankets for distribution to those who need them. A large green collection box will be in the M&M Café for donations. Please help fill the box. Blankets will be distributed with the cooperation of Community Action House.



## JANUARY YOUNG FAMILY EVENT

### January 19 @ 5p

Young Families Movie Night is January 19th at 5:00. Bring your blankets and pillows and comfortable lawn chairs to Fellowship Hall to eat pizza and see the movie "Peter Rabbit." Grandparents are invited to bring grandchildren. If you don't have anyone young to bring, bring yourself if this movie sounds like fun! Sign up in the M&M Cafe so that we order enough pizza.



## WEEK OF PRAYER CHRISTIAN UNITY

### January 20 @5p

Prayer Service in Observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Sunday, January 20 at 5:00p. St. Francis de Sales Church, 195 W. 13th St., Holland, MI 49424.

## 2ND FRIDAY NIGHT

## FILM SERIES

Series runs January – May, 2019  
Join Us in the Michigan Room  
Showing January 11; **First Reformed**

## 2ND FRIDAY NIGHT FILM SERIES

### January 11

2nd Friday Night Film/Discussion Series led by Jack Hyde is back! The series will run January – May 2019 in the Michigan Room (*with alternative meeting space, if necessary, due to construction*).

**January 11: First Reformed** (2018, 113 minutes, Rated R) addresses despair over the condition of the world, and despair over our personal life condition and the connection between the two. Can religion offer hope and guidance, or is it just another commercial enterprise? Upcoming film titles:

February 8: Itzhak

March 8: God Knows Where I Am

April 12: Goodbye Christopher Robin

May 10: Lucky

# SAVE THE DATE



## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JANUARY

Sunday, January 27, 2019 at 12 noon after second service.



## HOLLAND COMMUNITY THEATRE February 1

Join us to see HCT's next production of **NIGHT WATCH** on **February 1, 2019**. Tickets are \$13 each. Optional dinner at the Curragh at 5:30. Sign-up in the M&M café. Pay Chris Urbaniak. Synopsis: Unable to sleep, Elaine Wheeler screams as she sees (or believes she sees) the body of a dead man in the window across the way. The police are called, but find nothing. Elaine's terror grows as shortly thereafter she sees still another body, but by now, the police are skeptical and pay no heed to her frantic pleas. From this point on, the plot moves quickly and grippingly as it draws towards its riveting and chilling climax.



## WOMEN'S RETREAT February 22-24, 2019

The annual Women's Retreat will be held at Camp Geneva February 22-24, 2019. **Registration deadline is February 8.** Registration brochures are available in mid November. For more information, contact Bonnie Cowie at [dbcowie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dbcowie@sbcglobal.net).



## FLICKS FOR CHICKS Date and time differ with each outing.

Would you like to see a movie with a group of women? We are organizing a way of getting together. "Friend" Elaine Evenson on Facebook and she will notify you as movie dates/times are set and send you an invitation to join. You can also email Elaine, [eevenson@hotmail.com](mailto:eevenson@hotmail.com). Join as your interest and schedule allow.



*Below are a handful of Adult Enrichment Opportunities at FPC*

### **MEN'S BOOK GROUP**

1<sup>st</sup> Monday @ 7:00p in M&M Cafe  
Contact: Larry Lynn [oldrun09@gmail.com](mailto:oldrun09@gmail.com)

### **MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP**

Every Other Friday @ 7:30a in the M&M café  
Meets November 2, 16 and 30  
Each month a different subject is discussed.  
Contact: David Ford [davidford56@comcast.net](mailto:davidford56@comcast.net)

### **WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday @ 2:00p in M&M café  
Bev Plagenhoef [rvplagen@live.com](mailto:rvplagen@live.com) 616.335.3942

### **WOMEN — MIRIAM CIRCLE**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday @ 9:30a in Michigan room  
"I Am With You" study

### **WOMEN — HANNAH CIRCLE**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday @ 1:30p in Michigan room  
"I Am With You" study

### **ADULT MID-TIME**

Sundays at 9:45a in the Michigan Room.

### **BETHEL BIBLE SERIES**

Explore the Bible and learn about God's story and what that means for our journey with God. Judy Faber leads us on Thursdays, from 1:30-3p in the Michigan Room. Questions? Contact Judy Faber, 396.8117 or [jjfaber@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jjfaber@sbcglobal.net)

### **BELL CHOIR**

Every Wednesday @ 6:15p in M&M cafe

### **ADULT CHOIR**

Every Wednesday @ 7:00p in the sanctuary  
Chuck Norris (director) [charlesenorris@gmail.com](mailto:charlesenorris@gmail.com)

### **YOGA**

Every Tuesday @ 9:00a in lower level classroom  
Gwen Boeve [ghekman@gmail.com](mailto:ghekman@gmail.com) 616.502.4642

### **YOUNG FAMILIES**

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at various times/places—*notified by email*  
Chris Urbaniak [cmurbaniak@comcast.net](mailto:cmurbaniak@comcast.net) 616.836.9293

### **DINNER & THEATRE GROUP**

October, February, April  
Chris Urbaniak [cmurbaniak@comcast.net](mailto:cmurbaniak@comcast.net) 616.836.9293

### **DINNERS FOR 7**

November, March  
Chris Urbaniak [cmurbaniak@comcast.net](mailto:cmurbaniak@comcast.net) 616.836.9293 Go to FPC website to be placed on notification email list.

### **CHICK FLICK OUTING**

Various times and places depending on movie selection. Go to FPC website to be placed on notification email list.



# Presbyterian Women

As winter settles in, the monthly Bible study of GOD'S PROMISE: I AM WITH YOU continues. Both the Miriam and Hannah circles will meet in January for Lesson 5. Leaders of the Lesson will meet with Pastor Linda on January 2nd for her overview.

For December, new, unwrapped underwear for women and children was still being collected. The Center for Women in Transition receives these gifts to assist families who are often leaving an abusive situation without even the basics. The basket and bin were overflowing, as our church responded to this need.

Planning ahead to February and the months beyond, both circles are prepared to be flexible in planning for meeting outside the church as renovations begin. The Lenten Breakfast location in April is not set yet, but will be shared ahead.

Don't forget to plan ahead for our Tulip Time work! We will have a schedule online by March through Signup Genius for May 4-12. The traditional wall signup will also be found in the narthex.

**Miriam Circle** is **January 9** at 9:30a, with Mary Bennett leading the study and Jan VanFaasen as hostess.

**Hannah Circle** is **January 10** at 1:30a, with Ruth Roberts leading the study and Sarah Glover as hostess.



Rev. Linda Knieriemen and Chris Urbaniak were awarded Honorary Lifetime Presbyterian Women's Association memberships.

Get the latest news from Presbyterian Women Online

Website: [www.PresbyterianWomen.org](http://www.PresbyterianWomen.org)

Facebook: Presbyterian Women in the PC USA)

## Session Update

Action prevailed to approve bid proposal report received through A Place For All Design Team. Please refer to detailed article on page one by Larry Grinwis.

Received first reading of preliminary 2019 Budget with anticipated income of \$516,013. and expenses of \$523,208. Our intentions are to close that gap by the January Session Meeting.

Action prevailed to approve Pastors' Housing Allowance percentage; this is a good thing as they will continue to have a safe space to go home to and can leave their hard hats at work.

## SMALL GROUP LEADERS

### CHOIR & MUSICIANS

Chuck Norris  
charlesenorris@gmail.com

### DINNER & THEATRE GROUP

Chris Urbaniak  
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### MEN'S BOOK GROUP

Larry Lynn  
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### MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Dave Ford  
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### WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

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[rvplagen@live.com](mailto:rvplagen@live.com)  
616.335.3942

### WOMEN - MIRIAM CIRCLE

Mary Bennett

### WOMEN - HANNAH CIRCLE

Jauanna Jackson

### YOGA

Gwen Boeve  
[ghekman@gmail.com](mailto:ghekman@gmail.com)  
616.502.4642

### YOUNG FAMILIES

Chris Urbaniak  
cmurbaniak@comcast.net



# *a place for ALL*

## Construction Update *continued*



- 10-12 person elevator to lower level and main floor, access ramp to improve access to the chancel and the choir loft
- Open stairwell to lower level at the south entrance with new windows on exterior wall
- Enhanced security and technology
- Arts and worship room—room for choir robes and sink for communion prep
- Fresh finishes including new carpet and paint in upper/main level renovated areas
- Improved accessibility and baby changing facilities at the Main Level Family Toilet Room

### **Priority 2**

- Worship Centers relocated to be all together in the lower level
- New furnishings and finishes including ceiling grid and tiles, lighting, paint, and floor coverings
- New operable partition

### **Priority 3**

- Renovated Fellowship Hall with loop system
- New flooring with prayer labyrinth
- New lighting and ceiling grid and tiles
- Fresh paint

### **Priority 4**

New Family Restroom in lower level with accessible toilet, shower, washer and dryer

Construction will begin inside on the lower level in mid February and the new north entrance, etc. will be initiated in the Spring (exact date yet to be determined).

By delaying the start of the project and modifying some of our plans (for example eliminating the lift and replacing it with a ramp in the Sanctuary to enhance access to the chancel) we were able to reduce the cost of the project by approximately \$127,000.

Along with the capital campaign costs and the interest on the construction loan, we expect that the total expense for this project will be approximately \$1.4 million. Pledges to date on our capital campaign total approximately \$1.1 million, leaving a gap of roughly \$300,000.

While we will ultimately need to decide how we will cover that gap, that's not a decision we need to make right now. Here are some of the options for covering the gap—and they are not mutually exclusive.

- We receive additional pledges for the capital campaign—either from new members or increased pledges from current members.

- We carry a mortgage for the remaining gap—this could either be a long term mortgage (20 years) or short term (3-5 years).

- We conduct another capital campaign at some point after the expiration/completion of the current 3 year campaign.

We rejoice together that we are moving forward to enhance the safety, accessibility and functionality of our facility to support both our members and our community.

*A Place for All Building Design Committee: Larry Grinwis, Jon Kreple,  
Sandy Peterson, Larry Briggance, Bill Haines, Chris Olney, Linda Knieriemen*



*worshipping, serving, and living with a fresh  
vision of God's vibrant energy and grace for all.*

## Art Alcove Features Local Artist, Bob Tucker



Stop in the Art Alcove to see the latest display of intricate scroll saw work by Bob Tucker. After a major stroke in 2002, he had to re-learn the approach to his hobby since his entire right side was paralyzed. Through extensive physical therapy and investing in equipment easier to handle he was able to begin making simple pieces again. His determination allowed him to create progressively more intricate designs that contain over 1,500 cuts.

Bob considers his stroke a "STROKE OF FAITH." Bob lives in Freedom Village where he has converted one of his rooms to accommodate his studio. One of the pieces in our display contains a piece he entered into ArtPrize in Grand Rapids.



Bob Tucker's 2017 Art Prize entry, ***Together Always***, was inspired by a sculpture, *The Valentine*, by George Lundeen.

Photos used in this article courtesy of Bob Tucker's FaceBook page.