

presbyterian *profiles*

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 2019



Celebrate Easter!

During the Easter Sunday reading of John Chrysostom's Easter Sermon, we stomped our feet every time the word "dead" or "death" was said, and repeated UPROAR and RISEN! Talk about congregational participation!

"Let no one fear death, (STOMP)
for the Death (STOMP) of our Savior has set us free.
He has destroyed it death (STOMP) by enduring it.
He destroyed Hell when He descended into it.
It was in an uproar (UPROAR) for it is destroyed."

The imagery may be a bit fanciful, but what Chrysostom presents a valid theological picture for all Christians: Hell and death are annihilated, no longer to be feared. Do you believe it?

A mentor of mine advised me not to attempt to explain, but rather to proclaim the resurrection on Easter and preach about eternal life the week after Easter. I haven't always done that, but in that spirit, I want to encourage you to practice resurrection by planning for your end of life. There is no reason to fear! Yes, even if you are in your 30's or 50's or 70's or 90's. And you do not increase the chances you'll die by preparing for death.

If you need help with how to start, try here; <https://theconversationproject.org/>

Continued on pg 2

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Rev. Linda Knieriemen
Pastor

Celebrate Easter! ... continued

Then...

Prepare a will. Studies show that less than 78% of millennials and 64% of Gen Xers do not have a will. It's especially important that parents of young children have a plan for who will care for their children in the event of their untimely death. Just over 58% of Baby-Boomers have completed estate planning. Do it, or the state will do it for you! Simple wills can be prepared without expensive legal fees and revised over the years as your circumstances mature. Of course, an attorney should assist with more complicated situations.

Here's a link to get you started;

<https://www.aarp.org/money/estate-planning/info-03-2011/cost-effective-wills.html>

Prepare Advanced Health Care Directives and Durable Medical Power of Attorney. I recently worked with an older couple who wanted to prepare instructions for their children, but whose adult children dismissed the necessity as if death will never come to their 85 year-old parents. If your parents are in their later years and request such a conversation, step into this emotional territory and listen. If you are young and believe you have 30 or 40 healthy years ahead, do it anyway. Emergencies happen. Having the conversation now makes the hours immediately before and after a loved one's death calmer and less fraught with family conflict. A pastor will walk with you if you'd like. Here are some on line forms to get you started. Your physician may provide you with similar forms. These forms must be signed by witnesses and do not require an attorney's services, and they should be reviewed regularly as - again - your circumstances and beliefs are likely to change

<https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/advance-care-planning-healthcare-directives#started>

<http://www.caringinfo.org/files/public/ad/Michigan.pdf>

Plan your Memorial Service. Or at least jot down some of your most basic wishes and tell your family where you have placed these requests. A "Children: Look Here First" folder is a great way to organize your requests and key documents. The church office has a booklet which we'd be happy to provide you upon request. Or attend one of the "Generation to Generation" classes we offer every few years.

Celebrate Resurrection! Death's power is stomped out!

Start your end-of-life planning now.

If you have already prepared estate planning documents, good for you. Perhaps this is a good time for you to review them to satisfy yourself that they still document current desires



Rev. Katherine Culpepper
Temporary Associate Pastor

Faith Begins by Letting Go

In a book entitled “Good News from Great Leaders”, author Robert Dale recalls an incident where a plane crashed into the Potomac river one stormy night. He writes,

As crashes go, this one was gentle. The plane neither broke up nor burned. Flight attendants immediately began evacuating the craft. A woman passenger found herself poised on a wing’s edge ready to jump into the inky darkness. Suddenly, she realized she couldn’t swim. When she plunged into the night, she was surprised to land on a sandbar. She reported later with great relief, “It was great to feel something solid beneath my feet!”

A transitional time in the life of a congregation can feel like jumping into the dark and wondering if you’re going to land on solid ground, and more so when rather large and cavernous holes appear as once familiar entrances to the church disappear. It feels better to be settled, to have continuity in our environment, in our relationships. But if we’ve lived a while, we know that life is a series of times of transition and times of continuity. And that’s where faith comes in.

Through it all, our faith helps to keep us focused on what matters to God. God (insert the name you prefer...Jesus, Holy Spirit, Creator, Prime Mover, Beyond Beingly Being...), God is something solid beneath our feet in times of transition and



continuity. And by staying focused on what matters to God, we can respond rather than react when unexpected situations come our way. We can wait for God’s timing rather than rushing to make something

happen because we feel the weight and discomfort of being unsettled. And we can “keep on keeping on” with what we know to be congruent with who God is calling us to be in the present time and place.

I enjoy exploring our hymnal, “Glory to God”. Under the section labelled, “Celebrating Time” you can find #684 *“Faith Begins by Letting Go”*.

Faith Begins by letting go, giving up what had seemed sure,

Taking risks and pressing on, though the way feels less secure;

Pilgrimage both right and odd, trusting all our life to God.

May God grant each of us an abundance of faith during this Eastertide.

Lori Klinesteker
Children's Ministry Leader



Worship Centers KEEPING IN TOUCH

As we near the end of another Church School year on May 12, our hearts are filled with gratitude. We give thanks to the Parents of our Worship Center kids. Consistency is important as our stories build on each other. There is intentional preparation of the WC space along with Celebrants taking time to learn the story and being prepared each week. We appreciate your efforts and commitment to bringing your kids to Worship Center.

We are awed by the Kids who come with their wondering questions, sharing their joys and sorrows, making friends, and having a space where they can explore their faith journeys. We receive more than we give as we celebrate with them in the Worship Center.



Giving of WC offering and hearts,
for Kid's Food Basket

It is with gratitude for the commitment of our Celebrants as they share their faith and love. Seeking the Good Shepherd in all of our lives, and experiencing it through the eyes of children, is a delight. Your dedication is valued. "We can't give what we don't have." We also wish to acknowledge two special friends who continue to fill the Celebrants with spiritual training, love and

affirmation. Thank you.

To our Congregation who took time to attend the Child and Youth Protection training, we are blessed by your commitment for the safety of our children.

Let's stay in touch! Peace Camp (kids entering 2nd grade through 8th grade) is happening June 24-28.

With gratitude for so many reasons,

Lori Klinesteker

> SESSION HIGHLIGHTS < > SESSION HIGHLIGHTS <



Received first reading of Values Statement revision.

Motion prevailed for clarification of wording in "Weather Closings" section of the Session approved 2018 FPC Building Use Policy. When Holland Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather, the church office will be closed. Programs and activities can continue at the discretion of the leader of the group, but they will also need to have access to the building and lock it again if they are the last group using the building. **Note:** With the Office closed, be assured that electronic communications can still happen.

YOUTH@FIRST

Youth@First (Grades 6th –12th) typically meets on Sunday nights from 6-7:30p.

However, sometimes we like to mix it up! Check out what's coming up!



The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in his
Kingdom, we honor your name

Bring visions of
peace and rightfulness
to Earth

Let creation run the way you
intend it to

Give us our means to
Survive and stay sane

Forgive us our debts as we
forgive our debtors

Lead us to make
good decisions not based
in fear and ignorance

Upcoming Youth@First Schedule:

Sunday, May 5 @ 6-7:30p—Dinner with church members:
Youth will gather in church member homes for dinner,
RSVPs will be required so watch your email for more
information and directions.

Sunday, May 12—NO MEETING due to Mother's day.

Sunday, May 19 @ 6 -7:30p—Pizza Party at Freedom
Village: Meet at the main entrance and sign in as a guest.

Sunday, May 26—NO MEETING due to Memorial day

SAVE *the* DATE

ROAD RALLY REINVENTED!

If you have participated in our road rallies years ago you know how much fun they are. **We are planning one for our youth Sunday, June 2nd at 6:00p** as their kick-off to the summer and we need adult participation. If you would like to be a **driver and co-problem-solver** or if you are a **youth that loves figuring out puzzles, sign up in the M&M Cafe**. Teams will be set-up after the May 26th deadline.

ANNUAL CANOE/KAYAK TRIP

Come join us on Saturday, July 13th for the annual FPC Canoe/Kayak trip! We'll be paddling the Pere Marquette River in Scottville (near Ludington) again this year. Join us for a fun day of paddling. To extend the fun, camping will be available the nights of July 12th and 13th at Henry's Landing: 701 South Scottville Road, Scottville, MI 49454.

Stay tuned for more details, cost
and how to register!

Rewriting of the Lord's
prayer that came out of
the inter-generational
youth/adult Mid Time.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in his
Kingdom, we honor your name

Bring visions of
peace and rightfulness
to Earth

Let creation run the way you
intend it to

Give us our means to
Survive and stay sane

SAVE THE DATE



2ND FRIDAY NIGHT FILM SERIES > Friday, May 10 @ 6:45p

Gather in the Michigan Room for **Lucky** (2017; 88 minutes). Having out lived and out smoked all of his contemporaries, the fiercely independent Lucky finds himself at the precipice of life, thrust into a journey of self-exploration, leading towards that which is so often unattainable: enlightenment. Lucky, is at once a love letter to the life and career of actor, Harry Dean Stanton, as well as a meditation on mortality, loneliness, spirituality, and human connection.



MOTHERS DAY > Sunday, May 12 @ 1p

Have you bought your Mother a special Mother's Day Card? Presbyterian Women will be selling a wonderful selection of Mother's Day Cards on April 28 and May 5. PC (USA)'s Mother's Day Project has expanded its goals. It is called Healthy Women/Healthy Families Mother's Day Project. It will continue to highlight the Malaria Prevention Program which was established by the Presbyterian Church (USA) nearly 20 years ago. You can help in this life-saving effort by purchasing a Mother's Day card for a \$10 donation. Mary Bennett will be selling the cards after both services. Thank you for your continued support and donations.



INTERFAITH HAPPENINGS > Saturday, May 18 @ 1p

Lakeshore Interfaith @ the Bridge, our sister group in Grand Haven, will host an EarthCare event on May 18. The event will include an interfaith panel and a variety of family-friendly breakout sessions, including native plant walks and invasive species removal. Join us at Hemlock Crossings to celebrate spring and mother Earth.



YOUNG FAMILIES > Saturday, May 18 @ 11a

Join us for the May 18 for the 3rd Saturday gathering of YOUNG FAMILIES. Meet at 11a at **Helder Park** located on the corner of 104th Avenue and Quincy in Zeeland. Entrance is on 104th, continue straight ahead until the road dead ends next to the playground (similar to TimberTown). Bring a blanket for a picnic or there is a nearby pavilion with picnic tables. See you there!



HOLLAND CIVIC THEATRE > Saturday, May 18 @ 5:30p

Join us Saturday, May 18th for the "SUNSHINE BOYS" at Holland Civic Theatre. The theatre is performing their Tulip Time show for the community...after the throngs of visitors have left and the hustle and bustle has quieted down. Contact Chris Urbaniak with questions about signing up.



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE > Sunday, May 19 @ 10a

On Sunday, May 19, our summer worship schedule begins. From May 19—September, we will worship at 10a. On this special Sunday, we will listen as the children and youth of FPC present **The Easter Miracle, a mini-musical**. We will also celebrate our graduates. Please join us!

PEACE CAMP

Weaving a World of Peace • 2019



At Peace Camp children discover that peace begins with them!

Campers cooperate in games and projects. They learn to deal with their conflicts in a peaceful manner and come up with their own creative solutions to the problems they see at camp, at home, at school and in the world.

- WHEN:** June 24-28, 2019
- TIME:** 9am-3pm
- WHERE:** Grace Episcopal Church
555 Michigan Ave., Holland MI 49423
- COST:** \$100 for first camper;
\$75 for each additional family camper; scholarships available
- WHO:** Ages entering 2nd Grade – entering 8th grade
- REGISTER:** www.fpcholland.org/peacecamp
Deadline to register is June 10, 2019
- ABOUT:** Peace Camp is a collaborative effort of: First Presbyterian Church, Grace Episcopal and Hope Reformed Churches, ACTS Children's Ministry, Boys and Girls Clubs, Lake Shore Women for Peace and Holland Openly Secular Alliance.

Registration begins April 29, 2019.

Questions? Contact Lori Klinesteker; klinestekerl@gmail.com



Below are a handful of Adult Enrichment Opportunities at FPC

MEN'S BOOK GROUP

1st Monday @ 7:00p in M&M Cafe
Contact: Larry Lynn oldrun09@gmail.com
May Book; *Leadership: In Turbulent Times*
by Doris Kearns Goodwin.

MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Every Other Friday @ 7:30a in the M&M café
Each month a different subject is discussed.
Contact: David Ford davidford56@comcast.net

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

2nd Sunday @ 2:00p in M&M Café
Bev Plagenhoef rbplagen@live.com 616.335.3942
May Book; *The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper*

WOMEN — MIRIAM CIRCLE

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

WOMEN — HANNAH CIRCLE

2nd 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, jifaber@sbcglobal.net 396.8117

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

YOGA

Every Tuesday @ 9:00a in M&M Cafe (during construction)
Gwen Boeve ghekman@gmail.com 616.502.4642

YOUNG FAMILIES

3rd Saturday at various times/places—*notified by email*
Chris Urbaniak cmurbaniak@comcast.net 616.836.9293

DINNER & THEATRE GROUP

October, February, April
Chris Urbaniak cmurbaniak@comcast.net 616.836.9293

DINNERS FOR 7

November, March
Chris Urbaniak 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.

2nd FRIDAY NIGHT FILM SERIES

Led by Jack Hyde. The series runs the 2nd Friday of each month, January – May 2019. Join us at 6:45 in the Michigan Room (with alternative meeting space, if necessary, due to construction).



Presbyterian Women

Spring Launch

As our community tiptoes through the tulips, Holland First Presbyterian will have a prominent spot right on 8th Street at the TT Info Booth in the pocket park to assist visitors. We are there from May 4 through May 12. Gloria Ford and Steve Magennis will assist with moving our booth staff in and out to avoid parking issues. Stop by and say hello!

Our Lenten Breakfast was speaker, Rachel Stich, intake coordinator for Bethany Christian Services, serving immigrant children who have arrived in our country unaccompanied by a parent. Currently, she shepherds 128 children from babies to age 18 into foster care or group homes. Her clarity on the scope of this issue was enlightening and helpful to our understanding. "How can we help," we asked? Stand by as Bethany opens a Holland location. We will revisit this topic.

We have an opportunity to support the Center for Women in Transition with its MAY BASKET program. Personal items and gift cards can be donated, and we will keep a basket in the church office this year during construction. Please pick up some things you might enjoy using and share them this month.

PW has voted to give \$150 for travel expenses to the PC(USA) Youth Triennium at Purdue University this summer. We have 6 youth attending. This event occurs every three years for eligible youth, and all who have participated found it "awesome".

On June 13th at noon, Presbyterian Women will meet for our Annual Meeting at Freedom Village. We are exploring some different menu ideas. Signup will begin during May circles which will meet one week later due to our participation in Tulip Time this month.

SCHEDULE

May 1 2p	Study Leaders meet with Pastor Linda
May 2 9:30a	PW Coordinating Team at 9:30a
May 15	9:30a Miriam Circle Study leader Bev Plagenhoef, Hostess Aline Miller
May 16	1:30p Hannah Circle Study leader Gloria Ford, Hostess Janet Magennis

SMALL GROUP LEADERS

CHOIR & MUSICIANS

Chuck Norris
charlesenorris@gmail.com

DINNER & THEATRE GROUP

Chris Urbaniak
cmurbaniak@comcast.net

MEN'S BOOK GROUP

Larry Lynn
oldrun09@gmail.com

MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Dave Ford
davidford56@comcast.net

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

Bev Plagenhoef
rbplagen@live.com
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WOMEN - MIRIAM CIRCLE

Bev Plagenhoef
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WOMEN - HANNAH CIRCLE

Jauanna Jackson
jauannaj@yahoo.com
616.399.5322

YOGA

Gwen Boeve
ghekman@gmail.com
616.502.4642

YOUNG FAMILIES

Chris Urbaniak
cmurbaniak@comcast.net

Get the latest news from
Presbyterian Women Online

Website:

www.PresbyterianWomen.org

Facebook:

Presbyterian Women in the PC USA)

DEACONS CORNER

This month we highlight one of the Deacons' new Care Teams: **The COMFORTERS**

As we've been reporting recently, last year the Deacons moved away from our former system wherein each Deacon was responsible for a particular geographical group of church members. Our new system divides the Deacons into Care Teams. Each Care Team is responsible for a particular set of needs within our entire church family.

The COMFORTERS' responsibility is just that: Comforting

We strive to carry this out by:

- Visiting our church members who are shut-ins, or in long-term care or assisted living
- Visiting and presenting books or prayer shawls, or other special gifts to those dealing with significant life events, such as surgery, the loss of a family member, or the birth or adoption of a child
- Sending cards to those who;
 - Have suffered a loss
 - Are dealing with illness or injury
 - Have had surgery
 - Have recently welcomed a new baby or child into their family
 - Are celebrating a milestone, such as a new educational degree
 - Just need a lift, and to be reminded that their church family is keeping them in our prayers!



In the future we hope to help serve communion to those in our church family who are unable to get to church.

There are many folks from our congregation who are already part of this team. Being a Deacon is not a prerequisite. We value participation from all of you, and would love to have more team members!

Please contact us if you'd like to join us. No meetings necessary!

Gloria Slaughter

slaughterg@hope.edu

Sarah Anderson

andersons@hope.edu



GRADUATING SENIORS!

Do you have a senior graduating from high school, college or trade school?
Let us know, We want to celebrate!

If you would like your senior to be recognized in our upcoming June issue of *Profiles*, please supply us with a recent photo and a short write up that includes where your senior is graduating from, what accomplishments/activities your graduate has been involved in, and what their future plans are. Please send these items to publications@fpcholland.org by May 15, 2019, or call the church office with details, 392.9022. If you'd rather submit your information electronically, look for a Sign-Up genius link in the eWeekly.



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

