



presbyterian *Profiles*

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Summer Reading

One of the questions I asked our candidates for the associate pastor position in my early conversation was what have you been reading? It's only fair that I share my answer to that question with you. Here are a few of my recent reads and yet to be opened summer volumes. I'd love to hear what you're reading too!

Once Upon a River, by Diane Setterfield:

An exquisitely written novel exploring the power of story and the intersection of science, mystery, and truth. Setterfield's characters are likable, beautifully developed, and wholly sympathetic. Using the river Thames and its series of riverside inns as the geographical center allows opportunity for readers to float, boat, sink, swim through the mystery of a girl's drowning and her identity. I have this author's first novel, The Thirteenth Tale on my summer reading list.

In the Time of Butterflies: I heard a rumor this was the 2019 Big Read so I picked up a used copy (published in 1994 and made into a movie in 2001). Author Julia Alvarez fictionalizes the events of the Mirabel sisters who worked to overthrow the mid 20th century 30 year dictatorship of Rafael Trujillo in the Dominican Republic. The history is tragic, the actions of the sisters heroic, the author's artistic portrayal of this time period, emotionally moving.

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Rev. Linda Knieriemen
Pastor

Summer Reading ... continued

The Power, by Naomi Alderman: What if society's power structure is flipped and women discover they can generate electrical power to control and injure others? This dystopic novel terrifies, exposes, intrigues, and angers as gender roles reverse and readers are forced to consider how power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Not for queasy readers.

As an avid member of the Louise Penny fan club, I eagerly await the next adventure of Chief Inspector Armand Gamache and his comrades in the fictional Three Pines, Quebec. A Better Man will be released at the end of August. And yes, it's pre-ordered!

Turning to the spiritual, I received The President's Devotional as a Christmas gift. Joshua DuBois, religious affairs director for the Obama Campaign, compiles 365 selections of the daily devotional e-mails he sent to President Obama during his presidency. Every president should be so fortunate to have pithy, Biblically based reflections to start their day. Inspiring reading for anyone abiding in the complex intersection of public life and personal faith.

Good and Mad: The Revolutionary Power of Women's Anger by Rebecca Traister: Perhaps you, like I, have heard this author on a news broadcast. I was intrigued, but why read something else which will stoke my anger? But someone gave it to me as a gift, so I read it and was surprised. It is not a rant, but an eloquent historical expose of how women's rage has changed and can still change society in healthy ways. And yes, the author has a particular point of view!

David tells me I must read The End of a Presidency: The Power of Impeachment. Already fed up with polarizing news coverage of both the White House and the ramping up 2020 political marathon I wasn't sure a political read is what either my mind or spirit needed. But when I read in a review from the Atlantic that this volume is an "aspirin to cool a political fever", and in another review that the Laurence Tribe and Joshua Matz book is "not a legal brief or political strategy memo," and in yet another that it's "fair-minded without being bland," I've added this to my coffee table pile.

Finally, I've just completed Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church. Researched and written by three young researchers and church professionals at the Fuller Youth Institute, this volume is impressively researched, inspirational, and full of practical ideas. The authors intend it be used as a strategy for engaging youth and young adults in ways that breathe life into the *whole* church. I'll be suggesting at our next Session meeting that Growing Young becomes a guide for us as we welcome a new associate pastor and set goals for the coming year.



Rev. Katherine Culpepper
Temporary Associate Pastor

Working Together

In his excellent book, Canoeing the Mountains, Tod Bolsinger uses the journey of the Corps of Discovery as a metaphor for our present moment in history and a way of reimagining church leadership. He writes of Meriwether Lewis finding and drinking from the headwaters of the Missouri River and believing, "... he would walk up the hill, look down a gentle slope that would take his men a half day to cross with their canoes on their backs, and then they would see the Columbia River. After fifteen months of going upstream they looked forward to letting the current swiftly whisk them to the Pacific Ocean. They would crest the hill, find the stream and coast to the finish line. They could not have been more disappointed. What Lewis actually discovered was that three hundred years of experts had all been completely and utterly wrong. In front of him was not a gentle slope ...but the Rocky Mountains."

Bolsinger goes on to say, "And at that moment everything that Meriwether Lewis assumed about his journey changed...Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery were about to go off the map and into uncharted territory. They would have to change plans, give up expectations, even reframe their entire mission...What would they do now?...they had run out of water. How do you canoe over mountains? You don't. If you want to continue forward, you change. You adapt."

After our seventeen months together, you can probably guess where I'm going with this. It has been quite a journey – transitions in nearly every aspect of the life of the church. In June, our time



together will come to an end, and in July, a new leader will join the FPC Corps of Discovery. And now we are looking at our respective landscapes ahead which are significantly different than the one we are leaving behind. As Bolsinger writes, "If you can adapt and adventure, you can thrive. But you must let go, learn as you go and keep going no matter what."

It is a dynamic time in the life of FPC. New space and new leadership offer the opportunity to reorient and *work together with* your new Associate Pastor to consider anew the context for your mission and to "adapt and adventure." Note the emphasis on *work together with*. You may be tempted to think that you can sit back in the canoe and relax while your new pastor paddles. Please don't do that. When he asks for your partnership and participation, say "Yes!" Or if you can't say "Yes!", help him find someone else who can. I know you will welcome him and his family with the same kindness and generosity you have shared with me.

When I first arrived I said, "You can love me, but I'm leaving." That time has come. Know that I have indeed felt loved and that I love you too. I will continue to love you and hold you in my prayers – albeit from a distance. And in case you haven't heard it before, thank you, thank you, thank you. I am truly grateful to have shared this journey with you.

Love and Blessings,
Cully

Lori Klinesteker
Children's Ministry Leader



Worship Centers **KEEPING IN TOUCH**



Worship Center, Youth, and Congregants enjoyed ice cream at the end of Mid-Time on Sunday, May 12 in celebration of Summer. As we close on another year of WC, we look forward to being all together on Sunday mornings with the beginning of one Worship Service at 10a. Upon our return in the Fall, all three WC will be side by side in the lower level.

In preparing for Worship Center in the Fall of 2018, I was apprehensive of how the renovations to the Church would affect WC. The year began with each Center being in "their" spaces. By February, all three were on the main level, sharing space with others who used it during the week, as well as being creative in hallways. Two of our WC remained in a designated space. Thank you, Thom, for your energy in re-creating our 1st and 2nd grade Worship Center each week.

Our 3rd, 4th and 5th graders were known as the "roaming nomads" seeking a place to worship each week. By the beginning of April, we pared down to two shelves, 6 stories, and a Worship Table. It didn't take long to realize that "space and stuff" does not matter - it's our children gathering together to experience "The Story" and building relationships that brings the Light, Christ's Light, into our hearts so we can spread that love to others. "The Story", is the same, often experienced in different ways and in different places.

Peace Camp is a great way for our entering 2nd - 8th graders to stay connected this summer. Camp is June 24 - June 28, and will be located at Grace Episcopal. We are in need of volunteers. There will be a table in the M & M Café on Sunday, June 9 for various ways in which you can help. Registration for campers is online at www.fpcholland.org/peacecamp.

Find time to relax, build lasting memories, and enjoy summer. Be assured that a special place is being prepared for our return.

Celebrating together!

Let Christ's light shine through you,
Lori Klinesteker



Meet our Associate Pastor, Paul Van Kempen

It has been such a joy to meet with the APNC and Pastor Linda over the past several months and to get to know the people and the heart of First Presbyterian. I have felt so at home and so welcomed throughout this process. I am eager to work with Pastor Linda and to become a part of this beautiful community.

Shanna and I are excited to raise our kids in this church—a church where all are truly welcome and where everyone can know and experience God's love.

We are humbled by this opportunity and look forward to all that God has in store.

Meet the Van Kempen family!

Shanna- Shanna graduated from Hope in 2009 and then earned her Masters in Early Childhood Education from Rutgers in 2012. She worked as a kindergarten and 1st grade teacher for 6 years. She looks forward to going back to work in a few years!

Benjamin- 5 (almost 6). Ben is finishing up kindergarten at Waukazoo Elementary. He loves to read and is a great big brother!

Ian- 20 months. Ian loves letters and numbers, especially when they are in puzzles. He also loves cheese and applesauce. He is excited to become a big brother in June.



**Paul, Shanna,
Benjamin & Ian
Van Kempen**

Zadran Family Update

Since March, the Zadran family we co-sponsored in 2016, has now been here over three years. You might remember that Muhammad's older brother Daud arrived with his family in December 2015, and his younger brother Ilyas and his family arrived in June 2016.

In June, Muhammad will celebrate three years working at D&W and has moved up the ranks in pay and benefits. Sisters Hajira and Radia have worked at Hampton Inn since August 2016. Recently Muhammad's third sister Zaro-Jana, who came here with his older brother also started work at Hampton Inn. Javlay (mom) rotates living with her three sons.

Muhammad's wife Razia and three children arrived in October of 2017. The process to get his family here started in June 2016. Zeeland Reformed church co-sponsored them when they arrived. Their fourth child (a boy) was born this

past October. In late August 2018, Muhammad, mom (Javlay) and his three sisters (Hajira, Radia, and Zaro-Jana) traveled to Pakistan for the weddings of all three sisters. Muhammad and his mom returned in mid September, and the three sisters returned on October 20th .

In January, Lighthouse Immigration Services started the process to get visas for the three husbands. It is hoped that within two years they will be able to join their wives in the United States.

The youngest sister (Hajira) is expecting a child mid-June.

We would like to offer the opportunity to all of you to donate towards the purchase of a crib and stroller; she already has a car seat. If you would like to participate, please place your contribution in Chris Urbaniak's office mailbox. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE

hello

MY NAME IS

MEET THE NEW ASSOCIATE PASTOR > June 1 & 2

Please take time to join us the first weekend in June:

Saturday, June 1 - Attend an open house from 3:30 - 5p to meet and greet the candidate and his family.

Sunday, June 2 - Hear the candidate as he leads us in the worship service and stay for the congregational meeting immediately following to vote on the candidate and terms of call.

ROAD RALLY > June 2

Inter-generational Road Rally! Meet at church at 6pm where we will split into teams to compete to solve clues on a scavenger hunt around town. We will wrap up back at the church at 7:30p. Both youth and adults are welcome to participate. Adults, please let Lauren Stouffer or Chris Urbaniak know if you are willing to drive and how many passengers will fit in your vehicle.

PW SUMMER LUNCHEON > June 13 @ 12 noon

You are invited to attend our annual June Luncheon at Freedom Village on Thursday, June 13 at noon. Journey along the Camino de Santiago, also known as the Way of Saint James in northern Spain, with The Reverend Douglas Brouwer as he describes his 500-mile walk. Hear about his experiences, thoughts, and his impressions of the people he met from all over the world. Please RSVP by signing up on the bulletin board by June 7 with luncheon payment of \$15 by Sunday, June .

YOUNG FAMILIES 3RD SATURDAY EVENT > June 9

NEW DATE AND TIME FOR JUNE! Since Father's Day is the 3rd weekend in June we decided to back up our monthly Young Families event to the weekend before...and to be even more radical we're going to try a Sunday. So **June 9th, pack a picnic in a cooler before church and head for Matt Urban Park immediately after the 10:00 service** (south on State and left on 32nd Street). Meet at the playground at the end of the soccer fields. Feel free to bring lawn chairs, blankets, lawn games and friends. Please let Cassie Kregger or Chris Urbaniak know if you are joining us.

Planning ahead: On Sunday, July 21st, pencil in 3p at the Zeeland Splash Pad and get to know our new Associate Pastor and his family at the same time.

JUSTICE CAMP > June 18-20

Middle School and High School Students: Join us for Future Leaders for Justice Summer Camp on June 18-20, 10a-3p. Location: Hope Church, 77 W. 11th Street. Cost: Free. Sponsored by Faith Leaders for Justice: a collaboration of leaders from a variety of faith backgrounds and worldviews working for justice in the Holland area. For more details, find Future Leaders for Justice Camp on Facebook.



SAVE THE DATE



HOLLAND PRIDE > June 21-22

Who: For the LGBTQ Community, allies, all interested.

What: Events Friday night at the Park Theater with a community celebration in Centennial Park on Saturday from 12-5pm. More information to come!! **FPC is a sponsor!**

Why: To celebrate PRIDE here on the Lakeshore!



PEACE CAMP > June 24-28

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. Learn more at www.fpcholland.org/peacecamp. You won't want to miss this amazing opportunity.



CANOE & KAYAK TRIP > July 12-14

Come join us on 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). For details and registration information, watch the bulletin & visit our website.



SUMMER SENIOR BBQ & PICNIC > July 16

Ready to heat up the summer? Mark your calendars and get your taste buds ready for a BBQ picnic that will be a feast for your senses. All senior members, caregivers, and friends of FPC are invited to the Summer Senior Picnic, hosted by your Deacons. On Tuesday, July 16 from 5-7p at First Presbyterian Church. Please RSVP by Tuesday, July 9 on the sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board, or by calling the church office.



WHITECAPS BASEBALL GAME > August 25

Let's get together one more time before the end of summer for a baseball game! Join us Sunday, Aug. 25 to watch the Whitecaps take on the Fort Wayne Tincaps at Fifth Third Ballpark at 2 p. Tickets are \$14.50 each. This year we will sit in the Field Box section with a little more elbow room. You may purchase an optional meal ticket for \$4.50 which includes a hot dog and pop. Deadline to sign up and pay for tickets is July 25. Please sign up in the Narthex or contact Michele Richardson at 738-0122 or mjrichardson65@gmail.com.



Connect TOGETHER

Below are a handful of Adult Enrichment Opportunities at FPC

MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Every Other Friday @ 7:30a in the M&M Café
Meeting June 14 & 28
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
June book: *A Lone Birch* Meets June 16
July book: *The Great Alone* Meets July 14
August book: *Every Note Played* Meets August 11

Many of our usual groups do not meet during June, July, and August.
We look forward to seeing you all again in the fall.

For a complete list of small groups, please visit www.fpcholland.org/small-groups.

Session High-



- ~ As a group Session is reading the book, Growing Young.
- ~ Barb Schreur is being examined for ordination on June 11 at Presbytery meeting in Hesperia.
- ~ Session gave provisional go ahead with an Evangelism/Marketing team.

A Ride to Church



The Transporter Care Team is in desperate need of volunteers. Currently, there are a couple members of the church that aren't able to attend church on Sundays due to transportation issues. Even if you can do only one Sunday a month, it would greatly be appreciated. You never know when you may need a ride, and we'd love to accommodate everyone's needs. We have a couple of elderly members on the north and south side of Holland. Please email Paula Perkins, paula.perkins2@gmail.com or call at 616-283-5513 to learn more.

Thank you!!

Presbyterian Women



It has been a busy and **very flexible** year for our Miriam and Hannah Circles, and for our quarterly PW gatherings! We had a lovely Bible Study this year based on God's promise to always be with us. Our study next year will be "Love Carved in Stone" by Eugenia Gamble with a unique look at The 10 Commandments. We will begin in September with a PW birthday party and presentation of the new study by Pastor Linda Knieriemen.

Ending our program year is our Annual Meeting at 12 noon on June 13, at Freedom Village. Our luncheon is a served Cobb Salad and roll plus dessert for \$15 including tax/tip. Meet at the church at 11:30a and gather to ride in fewer cars to ease on parking. The Rev. Douglas Brouwer is so pleased to be asked to share about his recent pilgrimage in Spain, a walking journey of about 500 miles on the El Camino de Santiago Trail. He will tell us about the route originally said to be taken by St. James. Doug is a retired PC(USA) minister, who worships with us and sometimes fills our pulpit. He has also written articles for the Sentinel.

Tulip Time was a chilly but fun and busy 9 days in our newly assigned 8th Street Information Booth, well-served by the wonderful men and women of our congregation in their Dutch costumes. We are grateful for easily filling 50 time slots over the 9 days! It was with love that Holland First Presbyterian welcomed visitors, aided those needing help, routed folks to events and restaurants, and stepped out of the booth to have photos taken – and with Helen Teutsch that was with each of the seven people in the group! We were blessed to be a blessing!

Enjoy a summer break, and join us in September for a great new study. We all look forward to meeting and welcoming our new Associate Pastor and his family.

Janet Magennis, Moderator
Presbyterian Women

Get the latest news from Presbyterian Women Online

Website: www.PresbyterianWomen.org

Facebook: Presbyterian Women in the PC (USA)

SMALL GROUP LEADERS

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YOUNG FAMILIES

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CONGRATULATIONS

2019 GRADUATES

Katelyn (Klinesteker) Bonkowski, MD, graduated from CMU College of Medicine.

Tyler Bonkowski, DO, graduated from MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine.



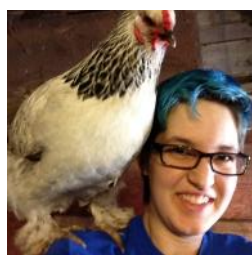
Maggie Hoffswell: Maggie graduated from the New College of Florida in Sarasota FL with a Bachelors Degree in Biology. Maggie will be working as a vet tech for the Mapleview Animal Clinic and plans to start Vet School in September of 2020 where she will specialize in exotics. She has been invited to present her senior thesis “The Effect of Anthropogenic Noise Pollution on the Foraging Efficiency of Corn Snakes” at the World Congress of Herpetology, January 2020, in New Zealand.



Sam Martens: Sam Martens graduated with honors from Holland High School. Sam is passionate about running, maintaining his role as captain of the varsity cross country and track team. Sam is also an elected member of Vocal Dimensions show choir, Student Senate, Holland Youth Advisory Council, The National Honor Society, and participates in Young Life. When Sam is not running, he enjoys traveling, being outdoors, and spending time with family and friends. He will be attending Grand Valley State University to run Cross Country and Track and focus on earning a degree in Nursing.



Sarah Elizabeth Olney: Sarah graduated from West Ottawa High School on Thursday May 23, 2019. She plays the violin in the West Ottawa Chamber Orchestra, ran cross country for four years, and plays varsity lacrosse. She received the Students Live United Award for volunteering 125 hours within her church and community. She is a member of the National Honor Society. Sarah received a Silver Scholastic Art Award for photography and an Honorable Mention for her graphic art. She will be attending the University of Minnesota in the Twin Cities to study Interior Design in the Fall of 2019.



Tate Shumaker: Tate graduated from Knox College in Galesburg, IL with a Bachelors Degree in Biology and minors in Computer Science and Environmental Studies. Tate plans to attend Vet School in September of 2020. Tate’s senior research is on the effects of enrichment on chicken behavior and welfare. Additionally, Tate developed an app for recording animal behavior research; the working title is Critter Behaviour Recorder.



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

Deacons Corner—The Gift of Food

This month, we highlight one of the Deacons' new Care Teams: The NOURISHERS

Nourishers provide meals to members who are sick, have a new baby, are just home from the hospital, or are recently bereaved. A meal brought to someone when they are emotionally or physically exhausted shows that someone is thinking of them, and cares enough to make sure they and their family are taken care of. Nourishing in this way truly says, "I love you."



Nourishers also host events throughout the year, like the "Summer Senior Picnic and BBQ" on Tuesday, July 16.

If you would like to show your love through food, please join our care team. You can contact me, Liz Hoffswell, via email or leave a note in my box in the church office. The

responsibilities are few, but the satisfaction is great.