

# presbyterian *profiles*

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2019



## OUR *BOOK* of **POSSIBILITIES**

**Nothing which they propose to do  
will be impossible for them.**

**~ Genesis 11:6**

### ON THE COVER

Our Stewardship Campaign kick-off is right around the corner. *The possibilities are endless!* Learn more from Linda's message.

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Rev. Linda Knieriemen

Pastor

## Our Book of Possibilities

Once there was a hard working woman who led an insecure and timid life. She had dreams of something more: a love interest, a travel destination, a famous chef she emulated whom she longed to meet. She hid all these dreams in a scrapbook titled, *Possibilities*. Only when a crisis struck did she have the courage to turn those possibilities into plans and those plans into reality.\*

God knows people need visions. God challenged the Hebrew prophet Habakkuk to “write the vision plainly”, to write it clearly so that even someone running by could read the words.

God has a vision for First Presbyterian Church of Holland. The Session wants you to share in that vision for:

- a broader missional use of our renovated building spaces
- a rejuvenated intergenerational ministry
- a more intentional effort to grow our church family through evangelism and marketing and hospitality
- a deepening of hands-on mission opportunities, advocacy and partnering in our community for justice, peace, and wholeness

During the month of October, your Stewardship Council and Session invite you to ask “What is God calling me to do and be to turn possibilities into realities?” How can my creativity, financial resources, energy and service grow from a vision in a book to an action? How can we become an ever more thriving, faithful partner in Christ’s mission of justice, love, and peace?

When you give through this congregation, you participate in God’s mission. When you pledge your intentions for the following year, you allow FPC’s leadership to plan responsibly for our future together and to turn Our Book of Possibilities into a Book of Realities.

**Commitment  
Sunday is  
October 27**

\**The Last Holiday* (2006) starring Queen Latifah



Rev. Paul Van Kempen

Associate Pastor

## Faith and Culture

Humans ask big questions. It's one of the things that sets us apart from animals. Where did we come from? What happens when we die? Is there a God? Are we alone in this universe?

In July, a college student named Matty Roberts decided to try to find an answer to one of these big questions - do aliens exist? Actually, what Matty really wanted to know was if the government is hiding aliens at Area 51. Matty started a Facebook event called "Storm Area 51, They Can't Stop All of Us" with this description: "We will meet up in Rural Nevada and coordinate our parties. If we Naruto run, we can move faster than their bullets. Let's see them aliens." (You can ask me what a Naruto run is later.)

Matty made this post on a whim, and it was obviously a joke, but, as of writing, about 2.1 million people have said they will attend the event on September 20. (You are reading this after the event, so maybe we have evidence of aliens now! Probably not.) It became a meme, a trending topic on the internet.

It also became a topic of conversation at our first youth group meeting of the year. Our first meeting was just before the storming of Area 51 and several of the youth were talking about the event, joking about going there, wondering if anyone would actually show up. It had captured their attention.

The Storming of Area 51 is a funny internet joke, but it is also a perfect example of the kind of thing we will be talking about in youth group this fall. Our fall series is called "Faith and Culture," and each week we will be looking at pop culture events that are in front of teens every day - the raid on area 51, TV shows, movies, news items, celebrity happenings, and more. We will talk about how we, as people of faith, can respond to these cultural events.

The Area 51 raid is a big joke, but it allows us to ask bigger questions:

- What is the difference between good and bad peer pressure?
- Are we alone in the universe, and if not what does this say about God and our faith?
- Can we trust the government? Should we trust the Government? What can we trust?
- How do we detect satire on the internet? What is the difference between real and fake news?

These are all pretty big questions that I think we can and should be addressing as Christians.

My hope is not to necessarily give the youth direct answers but to encourage them to have important conversations that allow the scope of their faith to be broadened and the roots of their faith to be strengthened.

And maybe along the way we'll find some aliens. Who wants to go to Nevada?



### YOUTH@FIRST

**October 6**  
Fast food progressive dinner. Travel around town to three or 4 fast food restaurants – ordering an item at each off their dollar menu.

**October 13 & 20**  
Lesson night at the Church

**October 27**  
Halloween Party (at Church) plus a trip to a haunted car wash.



Lori Klinesterker

Children's Ministry Leader



## Worship Centers KEEPING IN TOUCH

### *Amazing!*

September 15 was a morning filled with anticipation and triumph. Annie Lou, Lena and Luke received their Bibles during Worship; Celebrants were commissioned and with their Christ Light shining, processed to the new space with the children and parents.

The wait was worth it. Renovations to the new Worship Center wing in the lower level are incredible. Our Construction Team heard our visions of a calm space, provided new shelves, and installed spotlights to focus children's attention on the Story being presented.

Being on the same level, we feel more connected to one another.



Thank you for your support and commitment to our children as they continue to develop in their faith journey.

I am grateful for those who were advocating of our deadline, helping with the move (twice), cleaning of the space, and assisting with set-up of the Worship Centers. On opening day, rain was in the forecast – look closely at one of the photos taken at

7:30am - you will see the Light of Christ shining in. It was amazing.

Peace and Blessings,

~ Lori



## Preschool Fundraiser

### **It's time once again for the First Presbyterian Preschool's annual car wash sale!**

For your convenience, there are several different car wash options to purchase. Each purchase contributes a significant amount to this important fundraising opportunity for the Preschool. Please take note that this year the fundraiser will be a bit different.

Those who wish to purchase the car wash can sign up with Bev Plagenhoef, on the sign up sheet in the M&M Café, or contact the church Front Office. Please make your check out to First Presbyterian Preschool and either put it in the Preschool mailbox in the front office or send it to First Presbyterian Preschool 659 State Street, Holland, Michigan 49423. Feel free to contact Bev Plagenhoef with any questions via email at [rbplagen@live.com](mailto:rbplagen@live.com) or call the church office. All signups and payments due by Oct. 7, 2019.





## FPC Value statements

**We value** creative worship in the Presbyterian tradition.

**We strive** to recognize God's image in all people and to be respectful of our differences.

**We welcome** all to Christ's Table.

**We affirm** that church membership and leadership are not constrained by human labels but by God's gifts and grace.

**We believe** lifelong spiritual growth happens by navigating life's tough questions as individuals and as a community of faith.

**We value** strengthening community through serving, playing, studying, and eating together.

**We value** sharing God's abundant grace and love in Jesus Christ today more than we value striving for salvation tomorrow.

**We commit** to outreach ministries through volunteering our time, talents, and treasures.

**We engage** together in thoughtful Biblical and theological reflection on social and global issues, encouraging honest questioning and response.

**We are proudly** a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

## OUT ON THE LAKESHORE Update Supporting LGBTQ + Efforts in Holland

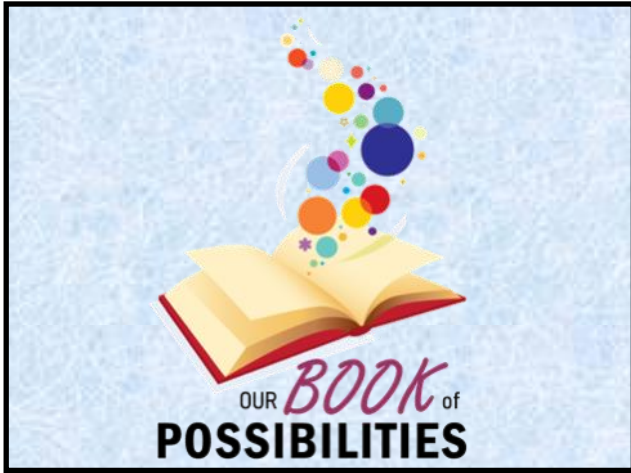
This agency (a 501(c) non-profit corporation) is providing ongoing and new support programs and a safe location for community members to meet. It is one of about ten agencies which receives financial support from FPC through the Outreach Council. This week OOTL announced the appointment of Jeffrey Sorensen as its first center director. Sorensen comes from the Upper Peninsula and graduated from Grand Valley State with a bachelor's in advertising and public relations. He will be responsible for day-to-day operations of the community center along with increasing OOTL's visibility, enhancing fundraising and creating a more consistent and active presence in the larger community.



FPC supported the Holland Project Pride Celebration on June 23rd sponsoring a \$500 information booth in Centennial Park. We were delighted to be able to meet and share the FPC message with many members of the community. Pride revenues this year were almost double 2018 revenues making this year's event the most successful ever. Sponsors were much more diverse coming from churches, businesses and various agencies. Its Friday night social event at the Park Theatre was a great success as well.

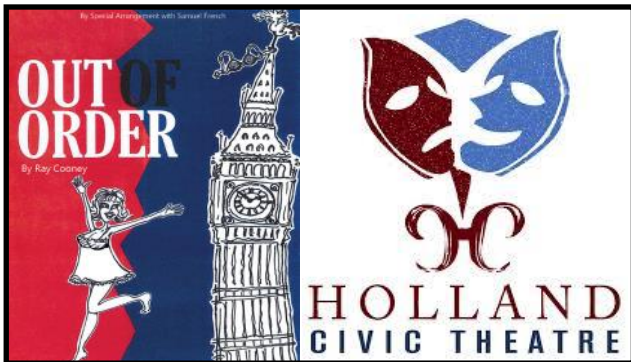
See Tom Urbaniak if you want to learn more about OOTL.

# SAVE THE DATE



There are many ways to be a faithful steward to God, to FPC, and to your community.

**Join the Mid-Time Service hour on Sunday, October 13,** to hear about the 2019 Stewardship Campaign. Scott Siakel will be speaking about his own journey of stewardship through volunteer service, and will be including an invitation to participate.



## The month of October - Our Book of Possibilities

### Sunday, October 6

Stewardship Campaign kick-off, *Our Book of Possibilities*

### Sunday, October 13

Time and Volunteer Survey Sunday  
MidTime Ministries class on church finances / ways to give  
Contribute sticky note(s) of possibilities.

### Monday, October 14

Stewardship packet with pledge cards mailed out  
Stewardship packets available in M&M Café  
Contribute sticky note(s) of possibilities.

### Sunday, October 20

Contribute sticky note(s) of possibilities.

### Sunday, October 27

Commitment Sunday. Return pledge cards.  
Contribute sticky note(s) of possibilities.

### November

November 17 - complete and return volunteer survey

## October 4 @ 7:30p

**Holland Community Theatre** presents..

### Out of Order

When Richard Willey, a government junior minister, plans to spend the evening with Jane Worthington, one of the opposition's typists, things go disastrously wrong.

**Tickets are \$13.** Optional dinner at the Curraugh at 5:30p. Sign-up in the M&M Café.

**Coming in November: *It's a Wonderful Life*.** Performance date is Saturday, November 30 at 7p (early curtain time). Stay tuned for more details.

## October 11 @ 7:30p

### 2nd Friday Night Film Series

***Won't You Be My Neighbor?*** (2018; 95 minutes)

Documentary. Dear Fred, we need you now, more than ever! From Academy Award-winning filmmaker Morgan Neville (20 Feet from Stardom), ***Won't You Be My Neighbor?*** takes an intimate look at America's favorite neighbor: Mister Fred Rogers. A portrait of a man whom we all think we know, this emotional and moving film takes us beyond the zip-up cardigans and the land of make-believe, and into the heart of a creative genius who inspired generations of children with compassion and limitless imagination.



# SAVE THE DATE



**October 20**

## **Young Families Third Sunday Event**

Join young families after church at Cranes Orchard in Fennville for lunch, apple and pumpkin picking. Please let Danielle Peterson know if you're coming so you can all connect. **SAVE THE DATE:** November 17, FPC is offering to care of your children at the church from 12-3 so that you can Christmas shop, go out to lunch, see a movie or just go home and take a nap! Stay tuned for more details.



**October 14**

## **A.J. Muste Memorial Peace Lecture**

You're invited to attend an excellent lecture about prospects for peace, delivered by a leading peace authority and educator. Winants Auditorium in Graves Hall, Hope College will host its 26th annual A. J. Muste Memorial Lecture, ***Charting a New Way to a New Peace in Troubled Times,*** presented by George Lopez. Dr. Lopez is the Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh Professor Emeritus of Peace Studies at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, and co-founder of the Kroc Institute. He is a leading expert on economic sanctions, peacebuilding, and various peace-related issues. The Muste Lecture series honors A. J. Muste, world-renowned peace and civil rights activist, developer of nonviolent resistance, and 1905 Hope College valedictorian. ***Please come!***



**October 26**

## **Holland Free Health Clinic, Run for Your Life 5k**

**Healthy Halloween family fun!** 2019 marks 10 years of the Holland Free Clinic's annual community fundraiser, Run for Your Life. This 5K fun run/walk is for participants of all ages and abilities. **Register on or before October 10 to guarantee yourself a RFYL t-shirt.** Come dressed in Halloween costumes for this family fun event. Students, learn how to get a student discount.

Register online: [hfhclinic.org/run-for-you-life-5k](http://hfhclinic.org/run-for-you-life-5k)

Online registration ends Oct. 10

**7:30-8:30a Register / 9a Race begins**

Entry fee \$30 (on or before Oct. 9)

Late registration (after Oct. 9) \$35

**Location:** Holland Free Health Clinic / 99 W. 26th St / Holland.



Image and logo courtesy of HFHC

# Presbyterian Women



## con-nec-tion

**noun – the act of connecting: the state of being connected: relationship in fact: a relation of personal intimacy: a means of communication**

Foundational to our Presbyterian Women ministry and a hallmark of what it means to be Presbyterian Women are our connections. Staying connected is hard sometimes, but our annual studies during the Miriam and Hannah circle meetings bring connections to a great group of Bible study friends. We find new personal intimacy with each other, sharing joys and sorrows, illnesses, family updates, recipes, and support for an international prayer ministry, our Presbyterian Preschool, our youth group needs, and local ministries like Resilience. We have a scholarship fund for retreats for members of our church. We join our community during Tulip Time in Dutch costume to direct visitors.

We are studying the Ten Commandments from a different perspective this season, and Pastor Linda led us in the opening lesson. We struggled to connect these familiar commandments with modern descriptions in new words. It will be a good learning year!

## UPCOMING DATES

- OCTOBER 4** Study Leaders meet with Pastor Knieriemen  
**OCTOBER 9** Miriam Circle - 9:30a with Bev Plagenhoef as study leader and Jan VanFaasen as host  
**OCTOBER 10** Hannah Circle - 1:30p with Peggy Purdy as study leader and Marlene Gregory as host  
**NOVEMBER 7** PWCT - 9:30a  
**DECEMBER 4** PW Christmas Luncheon where we collect new, packaged underwear for Resilience

## NEED MORE CONNECTIONS?

[www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org)  
[www.facebook.com/presbyterianwomenpcusa](https://www.facebook.com/presbyterianwomenpcusa)  
[www.twitter.com/pwpcusa](https://www.twitter.com/pwpcusa)  
[www.pinterest.com/pwpcusa](https://www.pinterest.com/pwpcusa)  
[www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen](https://www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen)



## SMALL GROUP LEADERS

### CHOIR & MUSICIANS

Chuck Norris  
[charlesenorris@gmail.com](mailto:charlesenorris@gmail.com)

### DINNER & THEATRE GROUP

Chris Urbaniak  
[cmurbaniak@comcast.net](mailto:cmurbaniak@comcast.net)

### MEN'S BOOK GROUP

Larry Lynn  
[oldrun09@gmail.com](mailto:oldrun09@gmail.com)

### MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Dave Ford  
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### WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

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616.335.3942

### WOMEN - MIRIAM CIRCLE

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### WOMEN - HANNAH CIRCLE

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206.910.4555

### YOGA

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616.502.4642

### YOUNG FAMILIES

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## CONNECT TOGETHER

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

### MEN'S BOOK GROUP

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month @ 7p in M&M Café  
Contact: Larry Lynn [oldrun09@gmail.com](mailto:oldrun09@gmail.com)

**Meets October 7 - October Book:** *The Pioneers: The Heroic Story of the Settlers who Brought the American Ideal West* by David McCullough

**Meets November 4—November Book:** *Madame Fourcade's Secret War: The Daring Young Woman who led France's Largest Spy Network Against Hitler* by Lynne Olson.

### MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Meets every other Friday @ 7:30a in the M&M Café  
Meets **October 4 & 18**

Each month a different subject is discussed.  
Contact: David Ford [davidford56@comcast.net](mailto:davidford56@comcast.net)

### WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month @ 2p in the M&M Café  
Bev Plagenhoef [rvplagen@live.com](mailto:rvplagen@live.com) 616.335.3942

**Meets October 13 / October Book:** *Nomadland: surviving America in the 21st century* by Jessica Bruder

**Meets November 10 / November Book:** *The Radium Girls: the dark history of America's shining women* by Kate Moore

### WOMEN — MIRIAM CIRCLE

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month @ 9:30a in the Michigan room  
Bev Plagenhoef [rvplagen@live.com](mailto:rvplagen@live.com) 616.335.3942

**Meets October 9**

### WOMEN — HANNAH CIRCLE

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month @ 1:30p in the Michigan room  
Contact: Peggy Purdy [pfpreads1480@gmail.com](mailto:pfpreads1480@gmail.com)  
201.910.4555

**Meets October 10**

### ADULT MID-TIME

Meets Sunday at 9:45a in the Michigan Room.

### BELL CHOIR

Meets every Wednesday @ 6:15p in M&M Café.  
**Meets October 2,9,16, 23& 30**

### ADULT CHOIR

Chuck Norris (director) [charlesenorris@gmail.com](mailto:charlesenorris@gmail.com)  
Meets every Wednesday @ 7p in the sanctuary.  
**Meets October 2,9,16, 23& 30**

### YOGA

Gwen Boeve [ghekman@gmail.com](mailto:ghekman@gmail.com) 616-502-4642  
Meets every Tuesday @ 9a - location TBD  
Session runs for 16 weeks, Sept 3-Dec 17, 2019. New students always welcome!



## CONNECT TOGETHER

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

### YOUNG FAMILIES

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday (or Sunday) of each month at various times/places. Notified by email

**Meets October 20 - Cranes Orchard Restaurant in Fennville directly following 11a service.** Join us for lunch, apple and pumpkin picking.  
Chris Urbaniak [cmurbaniak@comcast.net](mailto:cmurbaniak@comcast.net) 616.836.9293

### DINNER & THEATRE GROUP

Meets in October, February, April

**October Theatre outing: *Out of Order***  
**Friday, October 4 at 7:30p.**

Chris Urbaniak [cmurbaniak@comcast.net](mailto:cmurbaniak@comcast.net) 616.836.9293

### DINNERS FOR 7 - Returning in November

#### **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.

### 2nd FRIDAY NIGHT FILM SERIES

Meets the 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30p in the Michigan Room. January – May. Join us!  
Jack Hyde, [nobodyzperfik@gmail.com](mailto:nobodyzperfik@gmail.com)

**Meets October 11 showing: *Won't You Be My Neighbor?*** (2018; 95 minutes)



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

before you go to bed, don't forget to

*set your clocks back 1 hour!*



Ben Olney volunteered to clean our church bus. He spent 5 hours cleaning and polishing the inside and power washing and waxing the outside. It hasn't been this clean since it rolled off the production line!

***Thank you, Ben!***





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