



presbyterian *profiles*

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH / SEPTEMBER 2021

A Message from Rev. Linda Male	2
A Message from Rev. Paul Van Kempen	3
Worship Centers	4
Presbyterian Women	5
Mission & Outreach	6
A.C.T.S. Update	7
Deacons' Caring Corner	8
Connect Together	10
FPC Prays	11

CHURCH STAFF

Deacons

deacons@fpcholland.org

Office

Administrative Assistant
office@fpcholland.org

Lori Klinesteker

*Clerk of Session &
Children's Ministry Leader*
children@fpcholland.org

Linda Male

Interim Pastor and Head of Staff
pastor@fpcholland.org

Chuck Norris

Director of Music
music@fpcholland.org

Jane Oosterhouse

Custodian
custodian@fpcholland.org

Nancy Rodgers

Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@fpcholland.org

Thom Samuelson

Maintenance
maintenance@fpcholland.org

Sue Stock

Publications Specialist
publications@fpcholland.org

Paul Van Kempen

Associate Pastor
associatepastor@fpcholland.org



Rev. Linda Male

Interim Pastor

Linda's Keyboard

Time seems to disappear these days. Our hymn series for summer worship comes to a close on September 12. It has been enriching for me to participate with you in hearing and singing the favorite hymns of the congregation. Some reasons for my joy include:

- the challenge of relating scripture to song increased my appreciation for theological and pastoral ties we can experience;
- backgrounds of the hymns including the tunes opened my eyes to the spirituality of those who write profound church music;
- the reaffirmation for me that what we believe can be expressed in a wide variety of ways,
- the opportunity to meet some of you in person offered me a better understanding of you and the congregation in general.

Fall is already upon us—schools are open, routines change, and soon the colors will give us clues that cooler weather is approaching. We are enjoying the first fruits of harvest with plentiful fruits and vegetables.

On the planning side of ministry, we soon will focus on budget planning and the generosity of the congregation. We also will create a sermon series based on the Gospel of John and seven miracles of Jesus. The list that follows gives you the opportunity to read ahead each week the text that is used for the sermon. Use it devotionally or as a guide to investigate more deeply into the meanings of the miracles the apostle chose to record for us. Our prayer is that there is blessing to be had as we share in conversation about the wonders of being held in the hands of Jesus Christ.

- September 19/ John 2:1-11
- September 26/ John 4:46-54
- October 3/ John 5:1-15
- October 10/ John 6: 5-14
- October 17/ John 6:16-24
- October 24/ John 9:1-7
- October 31/ John 11:1-45

Grace and Peace to you,
Pastor Linda





Rev. Paul Van Kempen

Associate Pastor

Emotion vs. Intellectualism

One of my guilty pleasures is watching car review videos on YouTube. I'll watch a review of any car—old new, off-roader or super-car. If it is a car, I'm interested.

Something that often comes up in these reviews is the disparity between the “numbers” and the way a car drives. Some cars have all the right specs but they don't inspire any sort of emotional response (the McLaren mp4-12C for example). Similarly, there are cars with terrible specs that for some reason inspire connection and emotion when driving (like the Mazda Miata).

For a car, the “numbers” don't tell the whole story. Often what makes a car “great” is when there is an unmeasurable, emotional response to driving it.

This disparity between the “intellect” and the “emotion” is present not just in cars but in other aspects of life too—things like jobs, houses, and yes, even worship.

Worship is often intellectual in nature. We talk about scripture and theology, we sing hymns with dense lyrics, we repeat prayers and liturgies as we have for years. But worship can also connect with our emotions, and often, these emotional moments are when we feel the greatest connection to God and to our faith.

There are some churches that manufacture emotional responses in worship (this is bad), but if our worship has no emotion, then we are missing something. Faith is not just an intellectual exercise, but it is a relationship that engages both our intellect and our emotions.

This year in youth group we are going to be talking about the interaction between our intellect and our emotions in our lives of faith. We will explore ways to engage both and hopefully, in doing so, become more engaged in our faith lives, not just intellectually, but emotionally too.



PASTORAL TRANSITION UPDATE

Copies of the FPC self-study report are available at the church office and [online](#). Thanks to all who participated in this process. The pastor nominating

committee has been elected and is starting its work along with Rev. Kristine Aragon-Bruce, our transitional liaison from the Presbytery of Lake Michigan Committee on Ministry. The PNC is currently using information from the self-study to fill out a Ministry Information Form which will be posted on the PC(USA) pastor search website listing the open position.

Please continue to keep the members of the PNC in prayer as they begin this important work on behalf of our congregation: Bill Evenson, David Ford, Cassie Kregger, Erin Magennis, Tim Richardson, Jennifer Rund-Scott, and Helen Teutsch.



Lori Klienesteker

Children's
Ministry Leader

Worship Center: Keeping In Touch

~ Written by Lauren Stouffer

Our children are finishing up a summer series on the Fruit of the Spirit experienced through children's books. Many still remember the Fruit of the Spirit song and have learned some fun new songs as well. Each week, the kids have made an art project to help them remember the day's lesson and have fit in some time to play and even hunt for dinosaur bones in the sandbox!

If you aren't familiar with these books, they are worth a read:

- *I Love You the Purplest*, by Barbara Joose (love)
- *Angels on a Pin*, by Barbara Helen Berger (joy)
- *Peace*, by Todd Parr (peace)
- *A Chair for My Mother*, by Vera Williams (patience)
- *But No Elephants*, by Jerry Smith (kindness)
- *Mama Panya's Pancakes*, by Mary and Rich Chamberlin (goodness)
- *Not Yeti*, by Kelly DiPucchio (gentleness)
- *Horton Hatches the Egg*, by Dr. Seuss (faithfulness)
- *Moody Cow Meditates*, by Kerry Lee MacLean (self-control)

This fall, the children will explore the parables using the Worship Center curriculum during the Sunday morning services. We hope you enjoy their joyful voices as they continue to grow in their faith.



Top: Gabe and Eli sharing their dinosaurs and wearing their mindfulness jars, and young families at the Zeeland Splash Pad.



Presbyterian Women

While our long-term planning is totally dependent upon how the pandemic is affecting our local population, a small group of experienced PW leadership have developed a program from September through next June. Past Coordinating Team members Bev Plagenhoef, Sarah Glover, Mickey Harris, and Janet Magennis met to organize the 2021-22 year. We are not an elected Coordinating Team. At this time our Christmas Luncheon and Lenten Breakfast are not set. Circles did not meet regularly in person during the past couple years due to the pandemic and did not collect any giving. Our treasury is becoming limited. We can continue to support both Presbyterian Preschool and our commitment to Lake Michigan Presbyterian Women for another year. We welcome your continuing gifts to support our LMPW pledge, Least Coin, and our support for our preschool. Tulip Time support for 2022 is not known at this time. You may continue PW support by mailing gifts to PW/Mickey Harris at the church address.



We will meet in Fellowship Hall on **September 15 at 1:30p** to introduce our new Bible Study, ***“What My Grandmothers Taught Me”*** learning from the women in Matthew’s Genealogy of Jesus. Our Interim Pastor Linda Male will introduce the study and prepare the first lesson. We will collect our annual Birthday Offering, and envelopes will be available. There will be birthday cake! Join us for fun, learning, and dessert after lunch! Our new Handbooks will be available to update your folders.

This fall, please collect the new/unwrapped underwear and socks for ***Resilience***. We will have a basket in the entry for your gifts. We hope to have a Christmas Luncheon in December, but will collect the underwear gifts beginning in October.

We participate in ***Least Coin***, an international prayer mission. Whatever you designate per prayer or per day, please bring your monthly ***Least Coin*** prayer giving to our Circle gatherings. After prayers over the past year, I am even more committed to offering daily prayers for the children in my family and those of my friends, and the lively children in our congregation this year. I need to make a substantial gift in September!

Offered by *Janet Magennis, Past Moderator*

GET THE LATEST NEWS FROM PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

online: PresbyterianWomen.org / Facebook: Presbyterian Women in the PC (USA)

Mission and Outreach



Photos courtesy of Bethany VanHouten, Holland Free Health Clinic

While **Holland Free Health Clinic (HFHC)** has faced new challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, our work to ensure healthcare is accessible to all has not stopped. Michigan's temporary suspension of non-essential medical procedures increased waiting times for patients seeking services. During this time, we found creative ways to serve and engage with our clients, such as offering telehealth appointments and contact free pickup of medical supplies, PPE, and other treats. Upon reopening, we installed air purifiers throughout our clinic to ensure the safety of our clients, volunteers, providers.

Our community is still reeling from the effects of the pandemic and its needs continue to evolve. HFHC is committed to meeting these needs and in the past year we:

- **Began offering Substance Use Disorder Treatments** such as peer mentoring, case management, support groups, and educational training. Our Mental Health Program Coordinator, a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor, has provided both direct patient care and supervision of this new program.

- **Increased the capacity of our Mental Health Program** by 60%. This has allowed us to serve more clients with one-on-one counseling appointments. The pandemic has had significant, negative impacts on mental health around the world and HFHC's program expansion helps meet this urgent need for mental healthcare.

- **Started offering dentures, surgical extractions, dental crowns, and periodontal services** through our Dental Program. These services give our clients smiles they are excited to show off and we love being a part of this process!

As the world continues to heal, the services we provide are more important now than ever before and we remain steadfast to HFHC's mission. We are so thankful for FPC support and prayers as we strive to show Jesus' love to our community.

Jeff Compagner, Executive Director
Holland Free Health Clinic
99 W 26th St., Holland, MI 49423
Visit us online: fhfclinic.org

Volunteer Opportunities

In addition to ensuring that our church tithes and offerings are spent wisely and further God's work in our community, the Outreach Council is tasked with educating our congregation about the agencies that we support and about opportunities for the church community to become actively involved with our time and talents. One agency that we work with is the Community Action House (CAH). More information about CAH and their programs can be found on their website at: <https://www.communityactionhouse.org/>

First Presbyterian Church members partner with them in a variety of ways including donating food, clothing, and other items, volunteering within their programs, and even helping to provide meals through the Community Kitchen. If you are interested in finding ways that you can make a difference in our community, please look at their volunteer website here:

<https://volunteer.communityactionhouse.org/>



Update from ACTS

We continue to be grateful for the FPC family and the constant support you show to us and the families we work with!

This spring we continued with the small group classes from the fall, utilizing our outdoor space and the "garage classroom." The kids were learning everything from 'Cooking Around The World' to 'Outdoor Survival Skills'.

The summer season was very busy for ACTS! We were back to meeting in person daily with age groups ranging from 4 - 16. We saw many of our older kids step into leadership roles as teen leaders working with the 4-8-year-olds twice weekly. Our summer favorites returned and we were able to go to Surf Camp and Peace Camp once again!



Photos courtesy of www.actsholland.com

We wrapped up our summer of ministry with Peace Camp. Our kids were so ready and glad to get back to this tradition; it is a highlight of every summer. This year felt particularly special as almost half of the ACTS kids who attended were there as CITs (Counselors In Training), most of whom have been a part of Peace Camp since year one. This camp and intentional time spent with FPC is so special to all of us at ACTS. It is always a reminder to us of how unique and important our relationship is.

We thank you all for bringing ACTS into the life of the church and your outreach in the Holland community in this way. We thank you for the opportunity to work together to share Christ's love to our neighbors. The FPC family has always been an encouragement to us. We appreciate the ways you make space and opportunity to not only support our ministry but to include and engage us as well.

In Him,
Kylen & Jaime



Deacons' Caring Corner

The Deacons met in person last night for the first time in over a year. It was really nice to be able to communicate face to face and share what we have been doing and start planning for the future!

A summary of our teams may be helpful to you. The **Transporter Care Team** has been active with providing rides for members who need transportation to church or to doctor appointments. This Team is headed up by Deacon Vern Hostetler. The **Handy Worker Care Team** is another one that Vern heads up. It's less active, but if you need some help with a specific task, then the Deacons will try to help. The **Nourishers Team** has been providing meals when needed all year after a short break during the initial pandemic shut down. Nourisher Care Team provides meals to members who are sick, have a new baby, are just home from the hospital or are recently bereaved. Deacon Liz Hoffswell heads up the Nourisher Team. The **Comforter Team** has been active in sending cards, delivering prayer shawls, books for recently bereaved, and making phone contacts during most of the pandemic. Soon, we hope to begin visiting again as well. Deacon Sarah Anderson heads up this team. All the Care Teams are caring members of our church who provide much needed support of the Deacons' work. If you are interested in joining a Care Team, please contact a Deacon or email deacons@fpcholland.org The other roles your Deacons hold on the committee are Secretary, Sarah Glover; Treasurer, Linda Winkelmann; Moderator, Janet Haines. Jessica Kregger, Gloria Ford, Marianne McBeth, Colleen Ball, and Jennifer Rund-Scott all take part in working on the Care Teams in various ways.

God's Work.
Our Hands.



Being a Deacon is a wonderful call to service. In a very real way, Deacons are the hands and heart of the church in our ministry of caring. Serving as a Deacon of First Presbyterian Church of Holland is a privilege and a blessing. It is also an opportunity for spiritual growth and fellowship. As a Deacon, you are given the opportunity to know other church members in a deeper way, serving alongside them and growing in your understanding of the burdens people carry and how the church can help.

Some of the Deacons' activities include:

- Transportation Ministry
- Meals Ministry
- College Care Packages
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Greeting Card Ministry
- Visitation and Phone Contact Ministry
- Handy Worker Ministry
- Food and Fellowship Events
- Prayer Ministry
- Nominating Committee Representation
- Others as needs arise.

To learn more about the Deacons contact any Deacon or email us at deacons@fpcholland.org



PRIDE Festival // Our booth at the PRIDE Festival was again a great success! Over 200 children, teens and adults colored their own designs and we made them into a button they could wear. Many were



happy to see a church so supportive. Our bus was also parked right along the edge of Centennial Park so we were very visible.



Presbytery of Lake Michigan

Presbyterian Church [U.S.A.]

August 10, 2021

Rev. Linda Male, Interim Pastor
Elder Lori Klinesteker, Clerk of Session
First Presbyterian Church
659 State Street
Holland, MI 49423

Dear Siblings in Christ,

It recently came to our attention that your congregation is among 16 within the Presbytery of Lake Michigan that has consistently and faithfully supported the One Great Hour of Sharing by making annual contributions for at least 20 years.

Thank you for helping to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world.

As you likely know, your contributions support efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Each program works in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, the work of each group fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Enclosed is a certificate to recognize your congregation's efforts to restore hope, feed the hungry and empower the oppressed.

Please take a moment to share the certificate with your congregation and to celebrate, with your members, the good work you've done and will continue to do.

Peace in Christ,

Fran Lane-Lawrence
Transitional Co-Leader/ Stated Clerk

Cal Bremer
Transitional Co-Leader

1311 Helen Avenue • Portage, MI 49002 • 269.381.6337 • www.lakemichiganpresbytery.org



Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Presbyterian Church [U.S.A.]

With gratitude for your continued and generous participation,
we lift up on this tenth day of August in the year of our Lord 2021
First Presbyterian Church of Holland
whose members have supported for at least 20 years the



Your contributions, often during the Lenten season, support efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Transitional Co-Leader/ Stated Clerk

Transitional Co-Leader

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
616.335.3942

WOMEN - MIRIAM CIRCLE

Bev Plagenhoef
rbplagen@live.com
616.335.3942

WOMEN - HANNAH CIRCLE

Janet Magennis
jmmagennis@yahoo.com
616.490.4989

YOGA

Gwen Boeve
ghekman@gmail.com
616.502.4642

YOUNG FAMILIES

Cassie Kregger
Cassie.hildebrandt@gmail.com
616.298.4164

CONNECT TOGETHER



Preschool // First Presbyterian Preschool's first day of classes is **September 8**. Pray for our students and educators as they start a new school year.



Picnics for 7(ish) // Saturday, **September 25** at 1:00p. Dinners for 7 is back, with some tweaks for this fall. Enjoy an outdoor, socially distanced meal with 1-3 other households. The host will provide the main dish and will ask others to contribute sides/dessert/etc. This is a great way to get to know some new faces. Families with children are welcome! To participate sign up [HERE](#) by September 19.



Young Families Apple Picking // Join us after the outdoor worship service on Sunday, **September 26** at Crane Orchards for apple picking. Watch for more details.



Dinner and Theatre at Holland Community Theatre // October 9 at 7:30 (with optional dinner at 5:30 at the Curraugh) / *The Government Inspector*, a witty, smart, and wildly satirical play. When the locals in a small Russian hamlet learn that a government inspector is coming for a surprise visit, an unfortunate case of mistaken identity sends the whole village into a world of panic and greed. Contact Chris Urbaniak for reservations.



Welcome

Introducing the new Program Coordinator for First Pres Preschool

Hello! My name is **Marina Tronrud**, and I am so honored to be the new program coordinator for First Presbyterian Preschool. I am originally from Moscow, Russia, and immigrated to the United States to attend Hope College, graduating with a degree in International Studies and Music. My oldest two children attended First Pres and our newest little one will one day as well! I have been involved with the preschool since 2014, as a co-op parent, classroom aide, and music teacher. The First Presbyterian Preschool community is amazing and I am so excited to be a part of it!

Marina Tronrud
Program Coordinator
616-392-9022, ext. 106



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