

# presbyterian *profiles*

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH / JUNE 2022



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Rev. Linda Male

Interim Pastor

## FPC Trio

First Presbyterian Church Trio - Flute Piano Cello Trio

However you read the name, you are talking about the wonderful group of three fine musicians, Nick Norris, Emily Grabinski Conklin, and Andrew Plaisier, who bring their love of music into our sanctuary for worship.



They excite, they calm, and they focus us as we enter together into the holiness of God's presence. Their repertoire extends from traditional classical to modern to jazz to hymn arrangements. The benefit concert they held on June 12, 2022, in our sanctuary showcased the great variety of styles that they play. Everything they performed was at one point used for a worship service in the last year.

The pieces that are a part of the standard rep, such as the Martinu Trio and the Handel Sonata, were split up over the course of many Sundays due to being multi-movement works, so they were thrilled to have an occasion to perform them as whole works. As for the hymn

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Rev. Paul Van Kempen  
Associate Pastor

## Peace Camp



We had an incredible week at Peace Camp this year. We had more campers, more helpers, and more fun than ever before! The theme for peace camp this year was With My Own Two Hands and as a form a recapping a great week, here are three stories from Peace Camp that remind us to use our own two hands.

1. The kids' favorite song that we learned this year is called "Kindness" by Juicebox Jukebox. It is a great song, but there are a lot of words, and for the younger kids who aren't the fastest readers, they sometimes had a hard time keeping up. But each time we returned to the chorus suddenly all the little voices would sing at the top of their lungs, "Kindness! Kindness!" It brings joy to my heart to think about it! We are all trying to keep up in life, but if we can just remember "Kindness! Kindness!" the world will be a better place.

2. After church on Sunday a member came up to me and said that the theme of Peace Camp was



great for the kids, but that even the older members of the church need reminders and encouragement to use their own hands to make peace on earth. We all need those reminders, but we also need to celebrate the people we see bringing peace with their own hands. I saw this happening this week as the volunteer leaders led us through an incredible week. I also saw it this week as our church had a booth at the Holland Pride festival to share our message of love and acceptance for all people.

3. In church on Sunday, my youngest child, Ellarie, was sitting in the pews waiting for the children's message. As we were singing the first song, Ellarie noticed Beth interpreting the song into

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Lori Klienesteker  
Children's  
Ministry Leader

## Worship Center: Keeping In Touch

### Peace Camp *continued*

Sign Language. Ellarie began mimicking her the best that she could. It was very sweet to watch. Ellarie, like the young kids at peace camp are ready to use their hands and they are looking to us to lead them, to be their example for how to live peacefully and with kindness in this world. I am so grateful for the Volunteer Leaders of Peace Camp who were the examples for the campers to follow this past week.

Peace Camp is one of the best weeks of the year. I can't wait for next year!

Pastor Paul



*Thanks to  
Chris  
Urbaniak  
for taking so  
many  
awesome  
photos  
through out  
the week!*





## Presbyterian Women

This September, all women of our congregation are invited to participate in our study *Celebrating Sabbath* written by The Reverend Dr. Carol Bechtel of Western Theological Seminary right here in Holland! Small groups meet monthly in person or via an online option, so you can participate even if you are away during the winter.

COVID numbers permitting, we hope to once again gather together for a September Kickoff / Birthday Offering, and during Advent and Lent for a meal. Details to come, but we are ordering the study books this summer: \$10. Large type books are available! Please leave your check in an envelope in the PW mailbox in the church office. Below is a sample of the first Lesson in *Celebrating Sabbath*.

### **Lesson One: Sabbath and Celebration: This is the day to rejoice**

Read Matthew 11:28 –12:13. This is the beautiful “come to me all you who are weary” passage, followed by two stories of Jesus being criticized for “Sabbath breaking.” Think about a time you were criticized or criticized someone else for Sabbath breaking. Point out the art for this lesson and ask group members to comment on why this particular piece of art might have been chosen to illustrate this lesson

PW Team: Bev Plagenhoef, Sarah Glover,  
Mickey Harris, Janet Magennis



**GET THE LATEST NEWS  
FROM PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**  
online: [PresbyterianWomen.org](http://PresbyterianWomen.org)  
Facebook: **FPCHolland PW**

## <> Outreach <>



### FPC Trio recital raises \$2000 for Ukraine Disaster Relief

On Sunday June 12, the FPC Trio performed a wonderful concert of their "Greatest Hits" music to a delighted audience. Thank you especially to the members of the FPS Trio and to all those who donated to the free will offering which raised more than \$1500.

The Outreach Council has added enough to "round up" so that a check for \$2000 has been sent to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) for Ukraine. The PDA is working in collaboration with local partners in the region to provide emergency humanitarian aid such as food items, shelter, medicines, diapers, hygiene items, etc. More information about the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program can be found here:

<https://pda.pcusa.org/>



### Citizenship Celebration - August 14

In the Spring of 2016, First Presbyterian Church was privileged to sponsor an Afghan Refugee family, the Zadrans, including Muhammad, his sisters, and his mother as they began their new life here in the US. Many of our members volunteered to support them in many ways including food, transportation, English language practice, and friendship. Since then, more Zadrans family members have been able to join them here in the Holland area, and the family is doing well in their new home.

Earlier this year, Muhammad Zadrans became a Citizen of the United States! Please join us on Sunday, August 14 after the morning worship service to help celebrate their success. Save the date on your calendars!





## <> Around FPC <>



Thanks to everyone who volunteered at our booth during the PRIDE and diversity event in Centennial Park, The event took place Saturday, June 25. Our booth was well attended and very much appreciated.

Picnics for 7 were held at two homes, Urbaniak's and Magennis'. Each had 8 in attendance with lots of good food and conversations. It was fun to have this event reinstated. We are looking forward to the shrimp boil outside at the church August 27th. Details will be shared soon so save the date!



## FPC Trio *continued*

arrangements, they just picked the ones they liked best or that they found particularly moving when in rehearsal. However their choices are made, we can agree that our hearts were touched.

The concert was a benefit for the PC(USA) Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which has been assisting with the food shortage in Ukraine. Over \$1,500.00 was raised, and the FPC Outreach Council provided additional funds to make the donation \$2,000.00. The generosity of the Trio is matched by the generosity in the congregation. The audience that Sunday afternoon enjoyed treats baked by flautist Nick Norris. He promises more of the lemon bars next time.

Not only is Nick a great baker and flute player, he also is heading for MSU for a doctorate in French. We look forward to seeing him on weekends this fall when the Trio plays again for worship.

Both Andrew and Emily have important events coming in their lives also. Andrew is getting married later this summer, and Emily expects her first child in early fall. With all these changes we can count on one sure thing: we will hear them in the coming season. We are thankful that God has provided their talents for their joy and for the congregation's benefit as we join together in musical praise to Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

~ Pastor Linda

# CONNECT TOGETHER

**Paddle Weekend** - Come join us for the triumphant return of the FPC Paddle Trip on Saturday, July 16th. We're keeping things closer to home and will be paddling the Pigeon River in West Olive. To extend the fun, camping will be available the nights of Friday July 15th and/or Saturday July 16th at the Pigeon Creek Group Camp Area. ***Camping space is limited at our site. Register now before things fill up!*** For more details or to register, head on over to our website, [www.fpcholland.org](http://www.fpcholland.org).

**Outdoor Worship** - On Sunday, August 7, we will once again experience the fullness of God's creation as we worship and share communion at the Outdoor Discovery Center located at 4214 56th St, Holland, MI. This is a 10-minute drive from the Church. Worship begins at 10:00. If you wish, bring a lunch to eat after the service which will be held under the pavilion. Afterwards, have fun walking the trails or enjoying activities in the Visitors' Center.

**Shrimp Boil** - Saturday, Aug. 27. The Shrimp Boil is back and this year it's outside at the church! Watch for more details.

**Summer Events for the Youth group** - We are going to have a Mini Golf Tournament playing at the 3 mini-golf courses in town.

Friday, July 1: Craigs Cruisers Mini Golf 7:00pm

Sunday, July 17: Windmill Mini Golf 7:00pm

Sunday, Aug 7: Captain Sundae 7:00pm

Friday, Aug 19: We'll have a full day event at Michigan Adventures. Stay tuned for more details.

**Young Families Summer Events** - Join Us!

July 15/16 FPC Paddle Trip

August 21 - Splash Pad in Zeeland following the 10a Worship Service.



## PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE **UPDATE**

Last month I reported that the PNC is focused on one candidate. This continues and planning is in the works for the candidate to visit Holland soon. A couple of details about the candidate I can share.

This person served 18 years director of Children's Ministries and 10 years combined solo pastor PCUSA

The response to their PIF narrative "Describe the ministry setting to which you believe God is calling you." Included: The most critical aspect of the ministry setting is that truth can be spoken freely. Truth about the community. Truth about the scriptures (What do they *really* say?) Truth about how we lead, how we serve. The freedom to bring doubts and questions without shame.

Ministry setting? A place where "What if..." is a question that is encouraged. A place where all ages of people are engaged in worship, learning and ministry together. An open and affirming congregation. A place that is attuned to its environment and culture, listening for the ways it can partner with others in service and care. A place where the rule of love is the guiding principle.

While the PNC is current very excited, I remind you that things can change and truly it is God leading this process. Please continue to pray for the PNC and God's direction. ~ Tim Richardson





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