



presbyterian *profiles*

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH / JUNE 2026

A Message from Rev. Cathy C. Hoop	2
A Message from Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen	3
Worship Center	4
Presbyterian Women	5
June Session Report	6
Happenings Around FPC	7
FPC Prays	8

CHURCH STAFF

Deacons

deacons@fpcholland.org

Cathy Caldwell-Hoop

Senior Pastor and Head of Staff
cathy@fpcholland.org

Paul Van Kempen

Associate Pastor and
Director of Music
paul@fpcholland.org

Lori Lepard

Administrative Assistant
office@fpcholland.org

Marlene Field

Bookkeeper
Marlene@fpcholland.org

Lori Klinesteker

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

Jane Oosterhouse

Custodian
jane@fpcholland.org

Thom Samuelson

Maintenance
thom@fpcholland.org

Sue Stock

Communications
sue@fpcholland.org



Rev. Cathy Caldwell-Hoop

Senior Pastor

Wideness of God's Welcome

Our denomination just wrapped up its biannual General Assembly gathering last week, a time of worship, fellowship, and much discussion and debate on various overtures that were being brought forward.

A critical topic was white Christian nationalism. Commissioners to the 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) voted overwhelmingly to declare White Christian nationalism and similar ideologies "a theological error" incompatible with the teachings of Jesus Christ, advancing a proposed constitutional amendment that would add that language to the denomination's Book of Order. (Presbyterian Outlook)

This proposed amendment will now be sent to all 164 Presbyteries for a vote. This possible addition to our Book of Order would serve to affirm "the church's commitment to justice, peace, mercy and human dignity while rejecting 'any ideology that seeks to establish Christianity as a privileged or dominant force through the power of the state, or that conflates religious identity with national, racial, or ethnic supremacy.'"

Throughout our denomination there has been a growing sense that we need to respond to a version of Christianity that does not resonate with the teachings of the Hebrew prophets or Jesus. The concern for the immigrant, for the outsider, for the displaced is clear in scripture. So, too is the wideness of God's welcome as experienced in Christ. We celebrate the diversity of humanity and respect that our neighbor may choose a different path to God than the one we choose. Or they may choose a path that does not involve spirituality at all.

Our witness of love, compassion, and tolerance is a great invitation to the curious...may our lives reflect God's love in such a way that others will know we are Christians by who we welcome rather than who we exclude.

More information about General Assembly actions will be provided in an upcoming insert our bulletins later this month.

Let us pray for our denomination's leaders and staff as they continue to guide us in the ways of our compassionate God.

Blessings,
Cathy



Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen
Associate Pastor
and Director of Music

Wild Wonder: Flourish

Peace Camp was a wonderful week of learning, laughter, and fun! This year's theme, *Wild Wonder: Flourish*, helped campers explore God's amazing creation through songs, stories, games, crafts, and special guests. Thank you to all the volunteers, families, and campers who made the week such a joy. Enjoy these highlights from an unforgettable week.





Lori Klinesteker

Children's
Ministry Leader

Worship Center: Keeping In Touch

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." — John 10:11

The land where Jesus walked was rugged and beautiful. Rolling hills, rocky paths, hidden valleys, and scattered patches of green pasture stretched across the countryside. Water was precious. Shepherds knew where to find quiet springs and still pools that would refresh their thirsty flocks. They also knew the dangers—steep ravines, dark caves, and narrow paths where sheep could easily become lost or frightened. Sheep depended completely on their shepherd. They recognized his voice, trusted his leading, and followed him to safety, nourishment, and rest.

When Jesus said, "I am the Good Shepherd," His listeners immediately understood the picture. He is the Shepherd who knows every path we walk, leads us beside still waters, restores our souls, and stays with us through life's darkest valleys. His love is constant, His guidance is sure, and His care never fails.

Worship Center embodies the Parable of the Good Shepherd. A sacred and safe space where children are heard – accepted - cared for and loved, for pre-K – 2nd and 3rd – 5th graders. Children are invited to live within the Stories, question and respond in ways they choose, while building community with friends. Education Time from September – May.

Please consider this ministry with our children. A larger team who cares for and supports our children on their faith journey would provide a broader circle of diverse role models, unique perspectives, add creativity and skills, while being in support of each other.

Listen to the Shepherd's voice and discover peace, hope, and assurance found in following Him.

Lori Klinesteker,
Children's Ministry





Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women will resume monthly Bible Study as the Miriam Circle begins on September 9 in the Michigan Room at 9:30 am. Coffee and treats will be shared as we open the new study: *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other*. This is a study of Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, written by Rev. Dr. Rhonda Mawhood Lee. This timeless message of loving unity calls Christ's followers still today. Study books are available.



Lesson One: Unity in Christ, Wisdom from God

As we have experienced many recent losses in our congregation, the families have been served faithfully with a meal after the services. Our Diane Hayes has the organization of these meals down to a science and calls on women of the congregation to respond with hands-on preparation or baked goods. The kitchen camaraderie is fun, and loving hands transform the Fellowship Hall into a relaxing venue for families and friends to visit and commune while they are together for memorial services. Recently, the meals were simple, colorful, and tasty, with dessert and drink options. The silver services were used for hot coffee and tea, gifts lovingly left to our use from church members.

BUT - we had requests for lemon bars that were brought for a recent memorial luncheon! If you were the bringer of such heavenly baked goods, please share the recipe!

Another dessert story: when the cake and cookies left from Arloa Wirbel's memorial service we had planned to use at the June PW Indoor Picnic just a few days ahead were gone! We laughed and didn't mind a few less calories, and enjoyed getting to know our speaker Jean Flower and her inspired artistic pieces. The petunias on the tables were finally planted, to my worried husband's relief. Since we had a bad winter day for our Christmas Soup Luncheon and shared a single pot of

soup – and the June picnic desserts went amiss – at least the 2025-26 Bible Study was really thoughtful and interesting. We look forward to opening this new study in September, and remind that all women are welcome!

As I reach my double-number birthday matching my already double-number birthdate, it seems right to gift the PW Birthday Offering fund this summer. Envelopes are always available on the shelf near the new 28th Street accessible entry for your own celebrations.

Janet Magennis,
PW Communications

GET THE LATEST NEWS from PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

We are adding more content on our Facebook page! // Facebook: **FPCHollandPW**

Online: PresbyterianWomen.org

<> Community Event <>



June 27 PRIDE Festival at Kollen Park, Holland, standing in front of the FPC tent.

<> June Session Report <>

Things slow down a bit in the summer...

At our regular monthly meeting of the FPC Session, we had the joyful news of welcoming Jean Flower and Lydia and Ian Noyes into membership. Jean, an artist, recently had an exhibit of her icons in our cafe. Lydia and Ian found us through another of our young families, and they join us with their daughters, Tessa and Sienna. We will look forward to introducing them to the congregation soon.

Our finances continue to remain stable, for which we are very thankful.

The Personnel Council is preparing to meet with our part-time staff for their annual reviews, and also preparing for an in-depth review for Cathy and Paul.

Please be in prayer for our Nominating Committee as they begin to seek individuals who would be willing to serve as elders and deacons for our church. Paula Perkins will be coordinating those efforts, so please feel free to talk with her or Cathy or Paul if you have ideas.

<> Connect Together <>

Men's Book Group // We meet at FPC the second Monday of each month at 2:30p in the Superior Room. Currently, we are taking a break for the summer and pick up again in September. The first two books after the break are: September 14 - *The Pathway Between the Seas* by David McCullough. October 12 - *Chicago's Great Fire* by Carl Smith.

Grief Support // We meet at FPC the fourth Wednesday of each month at 2pm in the Superior Room. Our next meeting is July 29. We are a small group that gathers for grief support...we listen, we share, we pray. The group is open to all who need a safe space as they journey with grief. Contact Cathy with any questions. All are welcome.

Men's Discussion Group // We meet at FPC every other Friday morning at 7:30am in the M&M Cafe. Future meeting dates include July 10 & 24. Join us! Contact Ross Hamlin 616-399-0509 or Bob Gansen 269-753-7024 if you have any questions.

Women's Book Study // We meet at FPC the second Sunday of each month at church at 1pm in the M&M Cafe. Our next meeting is July 12 discussing the book, *The Page Turner* by Viola Shipman. Contact Bev Plagenhoef at rbplagen@live.com if you have questions.

Common Threads Group // We meet at FPC the third Monday of each month from 1-3pm in the Ontario room. Our next meeting is July 20. We hope that "Common Threads" reflects the fact that all are welcome. Many of us are crocheting or knitting prayer shawls, hats, scarves, and chemo socks. Feel free to come and work on other needlework or crafts or just come for the fellowship! Come and go as you are able. We hope you'll join us!

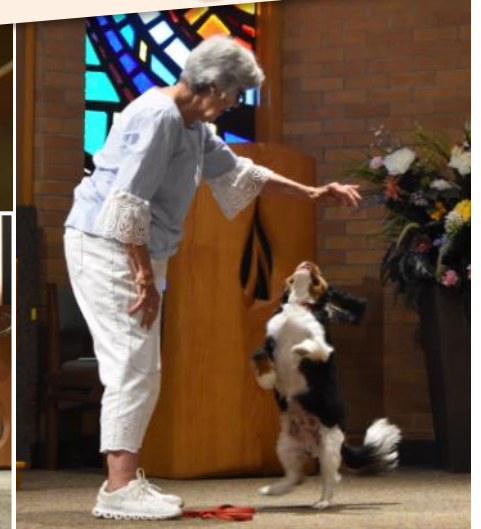
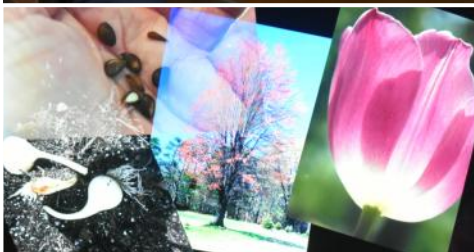
<> Happenings Around FPC <>



Thank you to all participants!



**TALENT/
UN TALENT
SHOW**



Let's Pray Together

PRAYERS FROM SUNDAY

- > Mary Deenik recovering after successful knee replacement.
- > George Rust, who is back in prison and for Tori as she advocates for him.
- > Rick Campbell's niece died in a car accident. Prayers for the family.
- > Janet Magennis, recovering after time in the hospital.
- > Kayla's friends, Josiah and Julia, had their first baby, Lincoln.
- > Veterans who suffer from PTSD as fireworks are going off.
- > Safety for those travelling for the holiday.
- > Linda Clark expecting a new grandson

IN SYMPATHY

Our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of David McBeth, who passed away Monday, June 8, 2026. Please hold Marianne, and all of their family in your prayers as they grieve their loss. Thanks be to God for grace and love from this life into the next. A memorial service was held Thursday, June 18 at 11am.

Our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Gordon DePree, who passed away Wednesday, June 3, 2026. Please hold Lenore, and all of their family in your prayers as they grieve their loss and give thanks for his precious life. Thanks be to God for grace and love from this life into the next. A celebration of Gordon's life was held June 29, 2026, at 11am.

PRAYERS FOR

- > Those struggling with loneliness, living with mental health needs, processing emotional pain, and struggling with addictions
- > Mike Van Houzen, receiving treatment for cancer
- > Cindy Helder's friend, Roxanne, who is experiencing heart problems
- > Jamie Blom's parents (Jim & Nancy) both dealing with health issues
- > Danielle Peterson's father, Dennis Mishoe, dealing with cancer
- > Steve Magennis' sister, Joan, who has cancer

- > George Rust, who is currently incarcerated, and struggles with mental health issues
- > Tedd and Joy Oyler, as they live with Tedd's diagnosis of Lewy Body Dementia
- > Linda Holmes continued recovery
- > Those grieving the loss of a loved one
- > Prayers for those who join us in worship online that they will sense the love and peace of Christ

HOSPICE

Lenore DePree
Mary Gray Nelson
Tedd Oyler
Lois Schreur

YOUTH@FIRST

Prayers for a safe and fun summer break.

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Prayers for a safe summer break.

LONG-TERM CARE & ASSISTED LIVING

- > Beau Bennett (son of Mary and Dick Bennett) – Appledorn Living Center South
- > Lenore DePree – Farmstead Assisted Living
- > Dean Effken – Riley's Grove in Zeeland
- > Judy Faber – Farmstead Assisted Living
- > JoAnn Karn – Medilodge (Rm 301)
- > Lois Rodgers – Appledorn Living Center
- > Carolyn Russell - Resthaven Maplewoods
- > Lois Rust – Appledorn Living Center South
- > Phil Sturdevant – Resthaven Care Center
- > Ron Williams – Michigan Veteran's Home, Grand Rapids

If you would like to submit a prayer request for publication on this list, please send it to office@fpcholland.org.

If you would like to share a confidential prayer request, please contact:

Rev. Cathy Caldwell-Hoop, Senior Pastor: Cathy@fpcholland.org

Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen, Associate Pastor: Paul@fpcholland.org



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