



# SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

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# Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

I love this time of year. The last days of August are full of a quiet buzz around the church. Plans are taking shape. Preparation begins. There is an excitement about the year ahead: The choir will soon return. Sunday school will soon begin. Members and friends of our church wait with expectation for new Bible studies to start.

What will God do in this new year in our church? What will God do in this new year in our lives?

I cannot wait to find out. What I do know is that God will build on the success of the past summer: on a wonderful evening VBS program, on a wave of baptisms, on strong church attendance, on an impactful mission trip to Colina de Luz for our youth and for our adults, on a fantastic backpack drive, and great time of fellowship at our church picnic.

Throughout the summer God has already been at work deepening our faith through the sharing of our beloved scripture passages. This September, we will build on that strong foundation as we turn our attention in worship to the most beloved of all scripture passages: Psalm 23.

In these words of comfort and hope, we find peace. I pray that these words will encourage you and strengthen you throughout the exciting season ahead.

*Emily*

The LORD *is* my shepherd;  
I shall not want.  
He makes me to lie down in green pastures;  
He leads me beside the still waters.  
He restores my soul;  
He leads me in the paths of righteousness  
For His name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;  
For You *are* with me;  
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
You anoint my head with oil;  
My cup runs over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
All the days of my life;  
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD  
Forever.

## September and October 2024 Worship Schedule

Our 9:30 am Sanctuary service is a traditional service  
Our 11:15 am service is an acoustic contemporary service held in our Upper Room\*

### Sundays in September

**\*Sept. 1, 2024** Labor Day Weekend This will be the final Garden Service for the summer.  
Beloved Passage: Romans 5: 13-14. Rev. Campbell preaching.

*On Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, we will begin a new sermon series which will span throughout October.  
In this series, we will study the most beloved of all scripture passages: The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm.*

**Sept. 8, 2024 Communion Sunday.** Rev. Ashley is preaching on Psalm 23:  
“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.”  
**The Chancel Choir returns to worship in the Sanctuary.\*\***  
**The Upper Room service resumes inside.**

**Sept. 15, 2024 Sunday School resumes at 9:30 am.**  
**There will be a blessing over our students during worship at 9:30 am.**  
**Guest Mission Speaker: Ross Weener from Hope Clinic, Ypsilanti.**  
Rev. Campbell will be preaching on Psalm 23:  
“He makes to lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside the still waters.”

**Sept. 22, 2024** Rev. Campbell preaching on Psalm 23: “He Restores My Soul”

**Sept. 29, 2024 Joyful Ringers lead music in Sanctuary.**  
Rev. Campbell is preaching on Psalm 23: “He leads me in paths of righteousness  
for His name’s sake” **Guest Mission Speaker: Rev. Vasco Kachipapa from Malawi.**  
**On this Sunday, we will also recognize Mark Gaskill’s 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at FPCP.**

### Sundays in October

**Oct. 6, 2024 World Communion Sunday.**  
**Guest Preacher: Dr. Jim Skimins (FPCP Emeritus Pastor) is preaching on**  
Psalm 23: “Yea, Though I Walk Through the Valley of the Shadow of Death,  
I will fear No Evil; for You Are With Me; Your Rod and Your Staff, They Comfort Me.”

**Oct. 13, 2024 Gospel Choir Concert in Sanctuary**  
Rev. Campbell is preaching on Psalm 23: “You prepare a table before me in the presence of  
my enemies. You anoint my head with oil. My cup runs over.”

**Oct. 20, 2024 Joyful Ringers lead music in Sanctuary.**  
**Stephen Ministry Leaders Commissioning.** Rev. Ashley is preaching on Psalm 23:  
“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.”

**Oct. 27, 2024 Reformation Sunday. One Combined Worship Service at 9:30 am followed by**  
**Our Celebration Potluck at 11:00 am. Children receiving Bibles. New Members**  
**joining the church. Stewardship Celebration and Dedication.**  
Rev. Campbell preaching on “And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.”

\*unless otherwise noted.

\*\* The Chancel Choir sings every Sunday unless other music is noted.



## **“A Life Well-loved and a Faith Well Lived”**

The family and I wish to express our sincere gratitude for the prayers and support which each of you gave to my family after Irene's passing last year. The memorial service was memorable with the full support of the Choir, Sue on the organ, the bagpiper together with Emily and the large congregation. Then there was the touching recognition of Irene at the Festival of Tables'. This always was a highlight of Irene's year and we were overwhelmed by the recognition you gave her. As a family we decided as part of our healing that we would work towards a memorial service in Scotland in a place we both loved as teenagers, near the "Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond." We are thankful that a local Funeral Director, David Todd, assisted us in finding a wonderful location. I then asked him to find a local minister to offer prayer. To my amazement he found the Rev Ian Miller who knew me from my time as a Church of Scotland minister. It is a 'wee world'! He is both gregarious and joyful and he bonded with the family. As a family we are all at the point of being very thankful to have had Irene in our lives and we are confident that she is with the Lord. Finally, I hope to be with you on World Communion Sunday and again our sincere thanks for your prayerful support. Blessings and peace  
Jim Skimins with Gillian, Lesley, Alyssa, and Emma

## **Garden Service Wrap Up**

It's been an incredible summer worshipping in our Memorial Garden. We were so blessed to be able to remain outdoors without a rainout from June 9<sup>th</sup> through September 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:15 (except Summer Picnic Sunday). The garden itself is a sanctuary filled with beauty and peacefulness. Gentle breezes blew nearly each week and the flowers danced while the fountain sang the healing sounds of water flowing. Truly, the Holy Spirit was among us each week.

We'd like to thank our ministers for an inspiring summer of sermons on favorite scripture verses. We're grateful Chris and Kylee led us through worship with heartfelt music both new and familiar. And without the countless volunteers who were present each week to greet our family of faith and guests, take attendance, make certain everyone had a place to sit, monitor the sound and live stream the services, and prepare and pass communion we would not be able to hold these services outdoors. Thanks to all of you. Your service to our Lord and His church is an amazing blessing.

-Worship Committee



**SAVE THE DATE:  
OCTOBER 27, 2024**

**FPCP**  
**“Super” Sunday**

**Celebrating:**

- **Reformation Sunday**
- **Distribution of Children’s Bibles to 2nd-3rd Graders**
- **New Members Welcome**
- **Stewardship Sunday “Shepherding in Our 190th Year”**

**Combined Single Service:**

**9:30 AM-10:45 AM**

**Potluck: 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM**



# *Children's Ministry Fall Event Schedule 2024*



## **Sunday School Fall Schedule:**

**On the last day of every month. We will have children participate in worship. Children will get the chance to read scripture, sing etc. Parents will still drop off children at the Sunday School room at 9:30am. Children will be brought into worship by Sunday School teachers.**

### **September:**

**9/15- Sunday School Resumes at 9:30am**

**September 29th-Children will participate in the first 15-20 minutes of worship**

### **October:**

**October 27th- Reformation Sunday-  
Children will participate in  
the first 15-20 minutes of worship**

### **November:**

**November 24th-  
Children will participate in  
the first 15-20 minutes of worship**

### **December:**

**12/1- No Sunday School-  
Thanksgiving break**

**12/8- Sunday School Christmas Party**

**12/15- No Sunday School because of the  
Christmas Pageant at 9:30am**

**12/22- No Sunday School- Christmas Break  
12/29- No Sunday School Christmas Break**

### **Fall Events:**

**9/15- Children's Ministry Fall Kick-Off  
Picnic- Outside- 12:30-1:45pm**

**10/13- Trunk or Treat- In the parking  
lot- 3:00pm-4:30pm**

**11/17- Paint and Praise Party-  
Fellowship Hall- 12:30-1:30pm**

### **Christmas Pageant:**

**Christmas Pageant will be December  
15th in the Sanctuary at 9:30am.**

**More practices are added this year to  
accommodate busy schedules. We  
encourage children to attend as  
many practices as they can.**

**Practice will be in the Sanctuary-  
12:15-1:15pm**

**September 22  
October 6, 20, 27  
November 10, 24  
December 1**







# Children's Ministry Fall Kick-off Picnic

Families come join us for food, fellowship,  
outdoor activities and bounce house!

September 15th, 12:30-1:45pm

Outside

## *Kid* Konnection

*Kid connection is a once a month class for Pre K (age 4) through 5th grade. Kid Connection is the third week of each month. We will be meeting Sept 18, Oct 16th, Nov 20th and Dec 18th. Dinner will be served at 6pm in the dining hall, class will be 6:30-7:30pm in room 134. This class will focus on hands on activities and help children continue to grow more in their faith.*

*If you have any questions please contact, Laura Craig- 734.453.6464, ext: 110, [lauracraig@fpcp.net](mailto:lauracraig@fpcp.net)*



# 2024 Christian Education Registration Forms

Hello families!

Rev. Ashley, Patrick, Laura, and the entire Christian Education Committee are so excited to welcome you to the 2024-2025 program year! As we return to our regular activities in the nursery, Sunday School and youth group, it is very important that our staff and volunteers know basic personal and health information about your children as we serve your family. Their health and safety while in our care is our top priority. We also need parent and guardian contact information in order to update you about event schedules and other items throughout the year.

We have developed one form for children participating in the nursery or Sunday School and one for students participating in youth group activities. Both forms can be found under the header "Christian Education Registration Forms" on the resource page of the church website (<https://fpcp.net/resources/>) or by accessing the QR code. Please fill out one form per child.

Completed forms can be either emailed or placed in Laura's and Patrick's mailboxes, located in the copy room. Please return nursery/Sunday School forms to Laura and youth group forms to Patrick.

Thank you for your help in providing this valuable information. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Laura, Patrick, or Rev. Ashley.

In Christ,

Laura Craig  
Patrick Tyrrell  
Rev. Ashley S. Ashley  
Christian Education Committee

A graphic for "Trunk or Treat Sign-Ups" featuring a blue car with its trunk open, viewed from the back. The text "Trunk or Treat Sign-Ups" is written in a large, stylized, yellow font with a blue outline, centered over the car. The background is a solid blue color, and there are strings of colorful pom-poms (red, yellow, blue, black) hanging from the top corners.

## Trunk or Treat Sign- Ups

**Looking for people or committees who would like to host a trunk. Trunk or Treat is Sunday, October 13th- 3:00pm-4:30pm. There will be a sign up sheet on the Christian Education bulletin board or you can contact Laura Craig.**

**Not sure what hosting a trunk entails or need ideas? Please reach out to Laura Craig.**



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# FPCP YOUTH MINISTRY

# FALL SCHEDULE

## SEPTEMBER

*September 13 & 14  
Fall Kickoff Lock-In*

## NOVEMBER

*November 10  
FPCP Bake Off*

## OCTOBER

*October 6  
Craft Night  
October 20  
Three Cedars*

## DECEMBER

*December TBD  
Christmas Party*

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*Contact Patrick  
[patricktyrrell@fpcp.net](mailto:patricktyrrell@fpcp.net)  
734-453-6464 x120*

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**FPCP YOUTH MINISTRY**

# FALL KICKOFF LOCK-IN

**CONCERT, PRIZES, GAMES**

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*September 13th and 14th*

*6 pm to 9 am*

*Cost: \$10*

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*Contact Patrick*

*patricktyrrell@fpcp.net*

*734-453-6464 x120*



# FPCP YOUTH MINISTRY

*Starting September 22nd,  
youth group will be meeting  
Sunday nights at FPCP  
from 6-8 pm with meals being  
served.*

---

*To stay up to date on all of  
FPCP's youth ministry activities  
and events sign up to be on our  
email list. Scan QR Code below  
to join!*

---



*Check out the NIMC section to  
learn more about the 2024  
Youth Mission Trip to Colina!*



# DO YOU LIKE TO SING?

*Then consider joining the Chancel Choir!  
Enjoy close fellowship with other choir members as we lift  
our voices to the Lord!*

**REHEARSALS ARE THURSDAYS**

**7:30PM-9:00PM**

We sing Sundays for the Sanctuary service at 9:30am. Interested? Please contact the Music Coordinator, Kim Swan, at [FPCPmusic@fpcp.net](mailto:FPCPmusic@fpcp.net)!



## **Blood Drive**

**First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth**

701 Church Street

**Thursday, October 10, 2024 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**



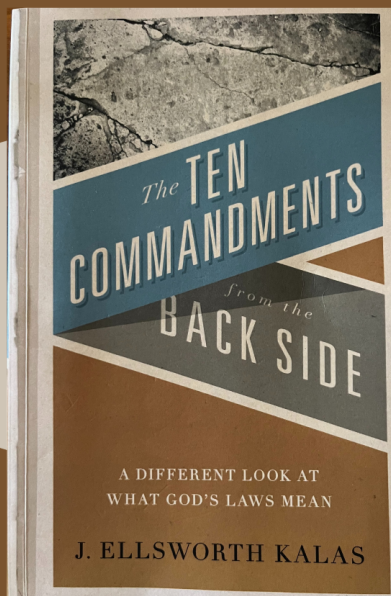
To schedule your appointment, please log onto [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) (sponsor code: fpcp) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

## Bible Studies - Fall 2024

All are welcome and are encouraged to explore our different Fall Bible Studies. Participants may join at any time that is convenient with your schedule. Please see the course descriptions on the following pages for more detailed information about each of the Bible Studies.

| Day       | Name                                    | Topic                                                                    | Time                                       | Starting Date                         | Location                           | Contact                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday    | Listening to Jesus, Responding in Faith | The Letter of James                                                      | 6:45 - 8:30 pm                             | September 8<br>(6 week study)         | Zoom Only                          | Nancy Sullivan<br><a href="mailto:nsullivanstudent@gmail.com">nsullivanstudent@gmail.com</a>                                                                                     |
|           | Continuing the Word Bible Study         | The Word of the Lord: Seeing Jesus in the Prophets                       | 5:30 - 6:30 pm                             | October 6                             | Chapel with Zoom Option            | Dana Hearn<br><a href="mailto:dchearn.mail@gmail.com">dchearn.mail@gmail.com</a><br>Gary McLaren<br><a href="mailto:gmlaren220878MI@comcast.net">gmlaren220878MI@comcast.net</a> |
| Tuesday   | Presbyterian Women Horizons Bible Study | Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and all Creation | 7 - 8:30 pm<br>(2nd Tuesday of each month) | September 10                          | Dining Room with Zoom Option       | Kiki Farrow<br><a href="mailto:kikifarrow@aol.com">kikifarrow@aol.com</a>                                                                                                        |
| Wednesday | Early Word Bible Study                  | The Jordan River Rules: 10 God-Given Strategies for Moving Forward       | 7:45 - 9 am                                | August - September<br>(10 week study) | Zoom Only                          | Sue Kage<br><a href="mailto:skage@comcast.net">skage@comcast.net</a>                                                                                                             |
|           | Women of the Word Bible Study           | The Gospel on the Ground - The Grit & Glory of the Early Church in Acts  | 10 - 11:45 am                              | September 4                           | In-person with limited Zoom Option | Sue Kage<br><a href="mailto:skage@comcast.net">skage@comcast.net</a>                                                                                                             |
| Thursday  | Evening Women's Bible Study             | The Best Yes: Making Wise Decisions in the Midst of Endless Demands      | 7 - 8:15 pm                                | September 12                          | Hearth Room                        | Meg Anderson<br><a href="mailto:MegfromMichigan@gmail.com">MegfromMichigan@gmail.com</a><br>Rev. Ashley<br><a href="mailto:ashleyashley@fpcp.net">ashleyashley@fpcp.net</a>      |
| Saturday  | Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study      | The Ten Commandments                                                     | 7:45 - 9:15 am                             | September 14                          | Hearth Room with Zoom Option       | Tom Weaver<br><a href="mailto:ttw@comcast.net">ttw@comcast.net</a>                                                                                                               |





## The Ten Commandments A Different Look at What God's Laws Mean

All men are welcome to join in this 12-week study of "The No That Gives Us Yes".... The Ten Commandments. This may be the right time, the right season, for us to learn how to live into these commandments in ways that bless our lives and those of our families and our community. Our study will be based on the book by J. Ellsworth Kalas, author of the popular "Back Side" series.

Our first meeting will be Saturday September 14 starting at 7:45am; we meet in the Hearth Room as well as joining with participants joining via Zoom. We would love to have you join with us! Please contact Tom Weaver at [ttw@comcast.net](mailto:ttw@comcast.net) for further information.

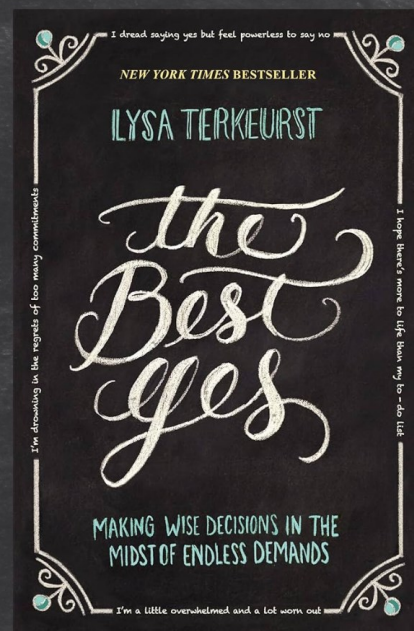
## Fall 2024 Women's Bible Study The Best Yes: Making Wise Decisions in the Midst of Endless Demands

There is a big difference between saying "yes" to everyone and saying "yes" to God.

In The Best Yes Bible study, Lysa TerKeurst uses her signature mix of transparency, Scripture-laced insight, and "been there" humor to suggest practical strategies for making wise decisions day by day.

Join us on Thursday evenings, 7:00-8:15 p.m., starting on September 12 for discussion and prayer.

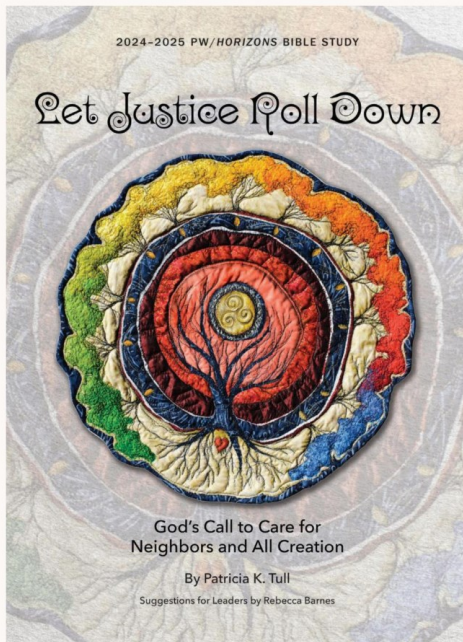
Contact Meg Anderson at [MegfromMichigan@gmail.com](mailto:MegfromMichigan@gmail.com)





# LET JUSTICE ROLL DOWN

GOD'S CALL TO CARE FOR NEIGHBORS AND ALL CREATION



Join Presbyterian Women as we explore God's call to care for our neighbors and for creation. Explore theological questions that point us to act and engage in small and large ways. Each of 9 lessons has multiple Biblical references to study.

2nd Tuesday of the Month at 7PM in person or on Zoom Starting on September 10th.

Contact Kiki Farrow at [kikifarrow@aol.com](mailto:kikifarrow@aol.com) by Mid-August to order your book

## A Six-Week Study Of the Letter of James

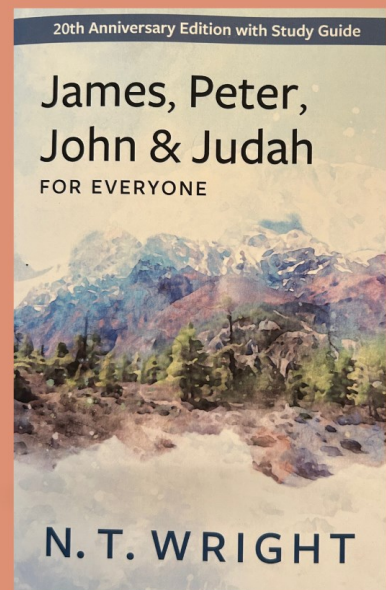
*Join us for the "Listening to Jesus, Responding in Faith" Bible Study*

**What does it mean to have a "living faith"?**

Consider joining a six-week study of the letter of James, an epistle which is known for its focus on bringing Jesus' teachings to life.

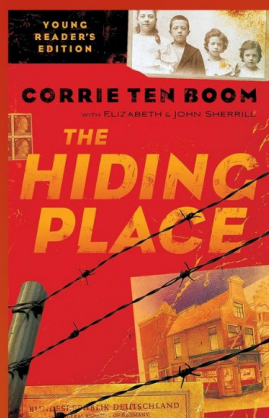
Readings and discussions will be based on an N.T. Wright commentary, "James, Peter, John & Judah for Everyone". The study, which will be conducted on Zoom, will begin on Sunday, September 8, at 7:00 PM.

For further information please contact Nancy Sullivan at [nsullivanstudent@gmail.com](mailto:nsullivanstudent@gmail.com).



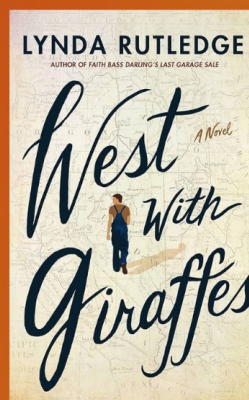
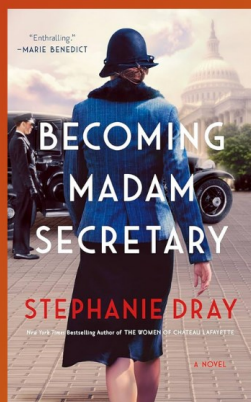


# Presbyterian Women *Lunch and a Book* FALL 2024 READING LIST



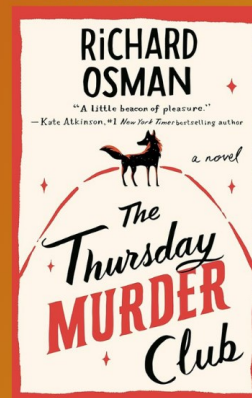
**The Hiding Place**  
Corrie Ten Boom  
September 4

**Becoming Madame Secretary**  
by Stephanie Dray  
October 2

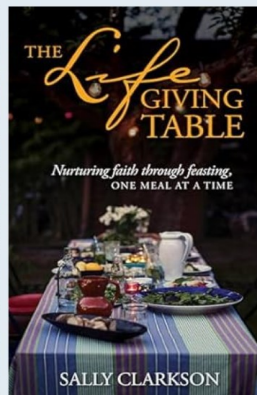
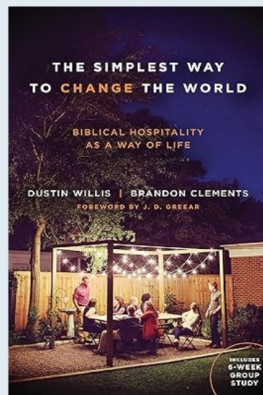


**West With Giraffes**  
by Lynda Rutledge  
November 6

**Thursday Murder Club**  
by Richard Osman  
December 4



**First Wednesday of the month at 12 noon - Hearth Room**  
**Bring a lunch and your book**  
**Questions? Contact Audrey Williams [awilliam1@msn.com](mailto:awilliam1@msn.com)**



## LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT *Hospitality*





Equal Exchange coffee, tea and chocolate will be available for purchase on Sunday, September 8th between and after services.

We will also be collecting batteries and ink cartridges for recycling in the Narthex.



## Women of Retirement Age "Field Trip"

Calling all Women of Retirement Age! We are taking the group on a "field trip"! On Tues. Sept. 17th, we will be going to the Detroit Institute of Art for a private docent tour of the religious works at the museum. We will be carpooling from church. Meet there at 10:30am. Lunch will be at the restaurants in the museum and our tour will start at 1:00pm.

**IF YOU WILL BE JOINING US, PLEASE EMAIL**  
MARGE SILVIS MLYNCH516828@GMAIL.COM OR  
LISA BENAGES LISA.BENAGES@GMAIL.COM.

We will be sending a text to all that have been involved and you can also respond there. We estimate we will need 4 drivers, so please also let us know if you will be carpooling with us AND if you would be willing to drive if we need you. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday September 17th!!





# BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

**Sunday, October 6, 2024, 1 PM - Church Grounds (*weather permitting*)**

We will be celebrating the love and joy our family pets bring to our lives by having a “Blessing of the Animals” service on Sunday, October 6th at 1:00 p.m. on the church grounds.



**All dogs must be on a leash**



**Smaller animals (cats, hamsters, guinea pigs, etc.) must be in a pet carrier**



**Exotics such as spiders, snakes, etc. should be represented by a photo only**



**If your pet is less social, please bring a photo instead of your pet**



**Please clean up after your pet and provide water for them**

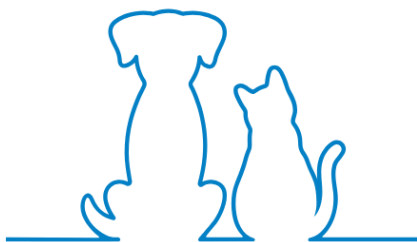
**This occasion is for current pets only (a prayer will be said for pets who have previously passed on).**

**Refreshments will be served for both owners and pets. There will be a photo opportunity with your pet and a special keepsake to take home.**

**A Free Will Offering will be available. Proceeds will go towards supporting the First Step ARK (Animals Receiving Kindness), a place for family pets when First Step families need a safe haven.**



**Come celebrate God's amazing creation with us on this joyous occasion.**



“All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful:  
The Lord God made them all!”

*Cecil F. Alexander, pub.1848*





**My student  
lights up every time  
his mentor comes to  
see him! He loves to  
get that extra  
one on one**

**My student's  
mentor time boosted  
his mood and you  
could tell he was  
excited to see his  
mentor**

**"Students'  
favorite times with  
mentors: "games of  
one-on-one  
basketball" "making  
crafts" and "working  
on hobbies"  
"talking" "playing  
games"**

**Thank you to all  
of our past Kids Hope USA mentors  
for making a difference in a student's life!**

**Bird Elementary Teacher & Principal comments**



**Mentors are so  
kind and take an  
interest in their  
student so the  
student feels  
special.**

**We have had  
nothing but support  
and love from this  
program and I am so  
grateful to have you  
working with us.**

**Kids Hope USA  
mentors are an  
important part of  
our school  
community**

**Are you interested in being a light in a student's life, with one hour a week of  
encouragement, support and fun?**

**Could you help a student feel seen, heard and valued in your one-on-one  
meetings throughout the school year?**

**For more information, call Susan Johnson, 734.751.9334.**





**Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law  
of Christ. Galatians: 6:2**

In 2018, FPCP received a generous financial gift to go towards the expansion of pastoral care in our church. Throughout Covid the pastors and Session explored options and decided unanimously to become a Stephen Ministry congregation. Stephen Ministry is a pastoral care ministry that was founded in 1975 and is in more than 13,000 congregations and representing 193 different Christian denominations.

Stephen Ministers are trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, but they share a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need.

Stephen Minister training is a Christ-centered experience that equips participants with essential caring and relating skills. Trainees learn how to listen to, care for and walk with those going through difficult times in life. Stephen Ministers are trained by their congregation's Stephen Leaders using resources from Stephen Ministries St. Louis. The training they receive in the congregation equips them to provide high-quality care to people who are hurting.

After being matched with a person experiencing a life crisis, the Stephen Minister meets with that person on a weekly basis to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional, spiritual and confidential support. The caring relationship lasts as long as the need for care exists.

In 2024, four members of our church including Rev. Campbell, Rev. Ashley, Sandy Dodge and Gwyn Jones each received 20 hours of training to become Stephen Leaders. They hope to begin training Stephen Minister's in early 2025.

# Fall Membership Exploration Classes Registration

**Fall Membership Exploration Classes will be  
IN PERSON ON**

**Sunday October 6th from 4 - 6 pm**

**Sunday October 13th from 1 - 3 pm**

*New Members will be welcomed  
on Sunday, October 27, 2024*

**Scan the QR code to register**



**If you would like to register over the  
phone, have previously taken the  
Membership Exploration class and  
wish to join now, or if you have any  
questions. call Jennifer Hollebrands  
at 734-453-6464 ext. 115**





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH

# LOCAL MISSION

## September 2024

### Hope Clinic Goods Collection September 15th- 22nd in the Narthex

The greatest needs right now for donations are as follows:

**Condiments** like Ketchup, Mustard, Mayonnaise, Salt & Pepper

**Non-food Groceries** like personal hygiene items, toilet paper, deodorant, shaving cream, etc. are important items in our pantry and a high need right now, as well as cleaning supplies like dish soap, disinfectant and laundry detergent.

**Baby Care** Items All diaper sizes except for sz1 & sz3. We also need Pull-Ups and unscented wipes.

**Soup and Cereal** We need a variety of canned soups and breakfast cereals for our pantry.

**Note:** Most online orders from big-box retailers can be direct-shipped to Hope Clinic! No need to wrestle bulky boxes into your car. Simply set the delivery address to 518 Harriet St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

**Local Mission Meeting** September 3

**Hope Clinic Goods Collection at FPCP** September 15-22

**Harmony for Crossroads An Evening in Motown** September 19

**Blessing of the Animals at FPCP** October 6

**Second Mile Golf Outing** October 12

**Hope Clinic Gala** November 1

**First Step Gala** November 8

### SECOND MILE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Thank you to ALL who donated to the Internship Program.

We raised \$5000 and matched it with a check from our Local Mission Committee to send Second Mile Center a check for \$7500!

### 8TH ANNUAL SECOND MILE CENTER GOLF OUTING

To register go to [secondmilecenter.org](http://secondmilecenter.org)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12TH**

**Farmington Hills Golf Course**

- Be a sponsor
- Bring a foursome and play golf
- Join us for dinner and the auction
- Donate to the auction

**Hope Clinic-** we are in need of volunteers to help serve dinner on Monday, September 30th at Hope Clinic. The hours to serve are approximately 3:00pm-6:30pm. If you are interested, please contact Valerie McKinley at [valerie@jvmckinley.com](mailto:valerie@jvmckinley.com) or 734-812-4653.



[www.kidshopeusa.org](http://www.kidshopeusa.org)

### SEEKING MENTORS FOR AT-RISK CHILDREN AT BIRD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL THIS FALL

mentor      one child      one hour a week  
*Your encouragement and love could change a life*

To learn more about becoming a mentor, contact Susan Johnson at [susani.johnson86@gmail.com](mailto:susani.johnson86@gmail.com)



**Thrift Shop-** We have opened a second cash register and need additional volunteers. Please consider donating a couple of hours per week to Mission work, especially on Saturday. For more information, please contact Linda Luke at 734-812-4516 or [Lindaluke2018@gmail.com](mailto:Lindaluke2018@gmail.com)

**Local Mission Committee-** Are you interested in joining a worth-your-time and gratifying committee?

We meet once a month on the first Tuesday (October is the second Tuesday). Most of the time the meetings are held via Zoom from 5:30pm-7:00pm, but occasionally we meet in person if we have a committee project to put together. There are several volunteer opportunities if you would like to get involved. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Dana Stonerook at [dstonerook@aol.com](mailto:dstonerook@aol.com) or 248-802-3622.

YOU'RE INVITED

# HARMONY

## FOR CROSSROADS

*An Evening in Motown*

*Thursday Evening*

**SEPTEMBER 19**

*Cocktails • 6:30 pm*

*Strolling Dinner • 7 pm*

*Live Auction • 8 pm*

*Live Music & Dancing • 8:30 pm*

*The Legendary*

**MOTOWN MANSION**

*Former Home of*

*Motown's Own Berry Gordy*

918 West Boston Boulevard

Detroit, Michigan 48202

### *Tickets*

**\$150** PER PERSON • **\$1,000** GROUP OF EIGHT

*Spend an evening in the home that welcomed Stevie Wonder, The Supremes, Smokey Robinson, and The Temptations.*

You'll enjoy cocktails, a strolling dinner, music from Grooving Violation, and incredible live and silent auctions.

*To purchase tickets, please scan this code or visit*  
[crossroadsofmichigan.org/harmony](http://crossroadsofmichigan.org/harmony)



Cocktail attire

To become a sponsor, email [nklepadlo@crossroadsofmichigan.org](mailto:nklepadlo@crossroadsofmichigan.org)



*Did you hear?*

First Step is embarking  
on a new venture!  
We're seeking to open a SECOND  
shelter, and this time, in Detroit!  
*Scan the code to learn more.*



YOU ARE THE LIGHT

*Gala*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2024  
6:30-11:30PM

*Laurel Manor*

39000 SCHOOLCRAFT RD  
LIVONIA, MICHIGAN

*Plated Dinner*  
*Dancing & Cocktails*  
*Award Ceremony*  
*Live Music by*  
*The Bluewater Kings*  
*Silent Auction*  
*Survivor Speakers*

tickets can be purchased using the QR code in the  
lower right hand corner or by going to:  
<https://www.firststep-mi.org/events/youarethelight>



FIRSTSTEP-MI.ORG/LIGHT



SEPTEMBER 2024

# NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL MISSION

## YOUTH & FAMILY MISSION TRIP COLINA DE LUZ CHRISTIAN HOME FOR CHILDREN LA GLORIA, MEXICO July 18-24



FPCP strengthened bonds with the children and staff of Colina de Luz during our last visit. We arrived ready to work hard painting, mudding drywall, pouring cement, taking down a bug-infested tree, and building sets for a youth conference but we came home with deeper relationships with God and our brothers and sisters at Colina because we worshiped joyfully and played hard together!



To hear more about our experience, go to the FPCP website or Facebook page and watch the worship services recorded on Sunday, August 11th.

This photo selection is a small taste of the rich week our FPCP team experienced!





SEPTEMBER 2024

# NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL MISSION

## TRIPS TO AND FROM MALAWI

Our partnerships with Malawi, Africa will be active over the next couple of months and your prayers are welcomed for safe travels for everyone along with fruitful, Kingdom-building visits!



### **Doug Kee - in Malawi Sept 7 - Nov 13**

Doug will be coordinating two teams of volunteers and installing shallow wells with Marion Medical Mission in Malawi, Tanzania, and Zambia from September 7 - Oct 27. He will then head south to spend time with our church partner, Mtenthera CCAP on October 28th. He will be joined by a team from FPCP on Nov 3rd.



### **Hussein Latif - in Plymouth Sept 16 - 30**

Our dear friend and Mtenthera CCAP Partnership Coordinator is hoping to join us in Plymouth to reconnect with all of us here in Michigan. Tourist visas have been extremely challenging to obtain so we are praying that Hussein will secure one in time for this visit.



### **Rev. Vasco Kachipapa - in Plymouth Sept 24 - 30**

Rev. Kachipapa has visited our church twice before and we welcome his return during his final tour in the US as the General Secretary of the Nkhoma Synod. He leads the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian in the Central Region of Malawi. Rev. Kachipapa has been a great source of support through the 14-year partnership FPCP has enjoyed with Mtenthera CCAP.



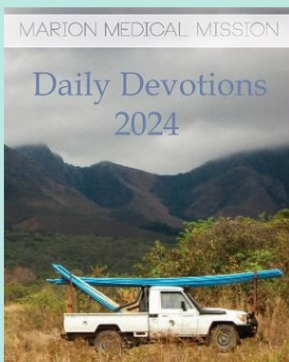
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH

### **FPCP Team - in Malawi Nov 2 - 13**

A team of 4-6 missionaries from FPCP are preparing for a visit to Malawi visiting our partners at Mtenthera CCAP, Veritas College, and Marion Medical Mission. Since 2019, travel between Plymouth and Malawi has been minimal so we are excited for this team to make a long-awaited visit.

## MARION MEDICAL MISSION

COMMUNITY. CLEAN WATER. CHRIST'S LOVE.



**FPCP'S MISSION PARTNER MARION MEDICAL MISSION IS PREPARING TO INSTALL OVER 4,000 WATER WELLS IN RURAL AFRICAN VILLAGES THIS FALL.**

**Each year African staff and US volunteers write daily devotions to help us reflect and pray on how God is at work through this ministry.**

The 2024 devotions book is out and you're invited to receive each day's entry through email or a .pdf copy.

**Go to [www.mmmwater.org](http://www.mmmwater.org) where a pop-up window guides you to sign up or make a request via email at [devotions@mmmwater.org](mailto:devotions@mmmwater.org).**

Your prayers and support are always most appreciated!

SEPTEMBER 2024

# NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL MISSION

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN MALAWI AND MEXICO

### MTENTHERA COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOL, MALAWI

We are looking forward to the beginning of the 2024-25 academic year when we will receive our official enrollment list of students who need financial assistance to attend high school at Mtenthera CDSS in Malawi. We are thrilled that many of our 75 FPCP sponsors have already committed to sponsoring a student again this year. **If you are interested in continuing to sponsor or in becoming a new sponsor, please contact Susan Kage at [skage@comcast.net](mailto:skage@comcast.net).**



### What kind of difference does sponsorship of a Malawian student make?

Liness Joseph [left] is an orphan who has been sponsored by FPCP throughout high school. Just prior to her final term, her guardian relocated to another part of Malawi in search of work and withdrew her from Mtenthera CDSS. Unfortunately, her guardian did not have the means to send Liness to a new high school forcing her to drop out.

Our church partner and the school contacted Liness's guardians urging them to let her return to the girls' hostel at Mtenthera CDSS to complete high school. We praise God that Liness returned! Liness hopes to become a nurse which would not be possible without a high school education. So many girls, through circumstances outside their control face these kinds of challenges. May God continue to foster these life-changing connections through this scholarship program!

### COLINA DE LUZ CHRISTIAN HOME FOR CHILDREN, MEXICO

The 52 children who currently live at Colina de Luz range from toddler to university-age and have been victims of trauma, neglect, and abuse. A powerful way for the children of Colina de Luz to receive God's love is through a relationship with a friend who consistently cares for them. Sponsoring one of the children at Colina de Luz is an opportunity to provide a child with much-needed love, compassion, and support.

32 of the 52 children at Colina need a full or partial sponsorship. A sponsor commits to pray for their child, send cards and letters of encouragement, and remember birthdays, special holidays, and other milestones in a child's life.

A full sponsorship is \$120/month or a half sponsorship is \$60/month. Sponsorship funds:

- provide personal items such as shoes, socks, underwear, toiletries
- deposit \$10/month to the child's bank that provides spending money and teaches them basic money management
- help cover medical expenses including doctor visits and medicine
- contribute to the purchase of school supplies, uniforms, tuition, books
- support outings, athletics, events
- contribute to your child's portion of general orphanage operating expenses

**For more information about sponsoring a child, please email [kathy@colinadeluz.org](mailto:kathy@colinadeluz.org).** Join the five FPCP families who sponsor a Colina child and make a lasting difference in the life of a child as well as your own!





## Marion Medical Mission Builder Training

Wilfred Kamanga, Marion Medical Mission Field Officer in Malawi who is supported by FPCP, sent these photos from builder training he led last week.

Each year all well builders and supervisors are certified in proper well construction through group training exercises which include building a training well. Good well construction is critical to ensure proper protection of groundwater in the well and also well longevity. Mr. Kamanga's goal is to build 300 new wells in 2024. Thanks for your prayers and support!



## FPCP Mission Opportunities Completed in May 2024

If you are interested in participating in any of these ministries, please contact Ailsa Blunk at [lemonblunk@gmail.com](mailto:lemonblunk@gmail.com).

| Date               | Sponsor                                                                                                                                                                      | Benefitting Organization                                                                                                                                          | Provided                 | Freq.                           | Results                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| July 20 - 21, 2024 | Local Mission/ Peggy Kmeciak. Also received help from: Faith Community, First Presbyterian of Northville, First Presbyterian of Farmington and Sharon Holcomb's Yoga Classes | Hands Across the Water, Afghanistan refugees, Bethany Christian Services, Second Mile Center, The Department of Human and Health Services, Wayne State University | Goods                    | Annually                        | School Supplies and backpacks collected. 445 filled backpacks were delivered to various agencies. Also \$25 gift cards for Wayne State students. |
| July 8, 2024       | Listening to Jesus: Responding in Faith Bible Study                                                                                                                          | Hope Clinic                                                                                                                                                       | Service                  | Monthly                         | Served 230 meals, 7 people, 24 hours                                                                                                             |
| July 12th & 26th   | FPCP Partners in Earth Care                                                                                                                                                  | First Step Domestic Violence Shelter                                                                                                                              | Service, Financial       | Every 2 weeks throughout summer | 9 volunteers provided 14 hours of service                                                                                                        |
| July               | Local Mission / Thrift Shop                                                                                                                                                  | FPCP & Community                                                                                                                                                  | ALL                      | all year                        | Approx. 288 volunteers hours provided each month                                                                                                 |
| July               | Fitness in Christ Yoga                                                                                                                                                       | Congregation members & Foster Children Backpack Drive                                                                                                             | Service / Financial      | Monthly                         | 10 classes/ 15 hours of service, 75 backpacks donated                                                                                            |
| July 14, 2024      | Listening to Jesus: Responding in Faith Bible Study                                                                                                                          | Hope Clinic                                                                                                                                                       | Service/ Goods/ Monetary | as needed                       | 96 lunches were prepared by 18 people, 20 hours                                                                                                  |
| July               | B&G                                                                                                                                                                          | FPCP Members in Need                                                                                                                                              | Service                  | as needed                       | Completed two requests                                                                                                                           |
| July 18 - 24, 2024 | NIMC                                                                                                                                                                         | Adult/Youth Mission Trip to Colina de Luz                                                                                                                         | Service, Financial       | Annually                        | There were seven 30 and over adults, 3 in their 20's and 5 under 18 who participated.                                                            |
| July 12th & 26th   | FPCP Partners in Earth Care                                                                                                                                                  | First Step Domestic Violence Shelter                                                                                                                              | Service                  | as needed                       | July 12th - 4 hours, July 26th - 2.5 hours                                                                                                       |



|                    |                                                           |                                                                   |                     |                           |                                                                                          |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| July               | Threads to Heal the Heart Quilt & Prayer Shawl Ministries | Those in Need, Babies Baptized, etc. at FPCP. Also Colina de Luz. | Service/ Goods      | as needed                 | 8 pocket prayer squares went to the staff at Colina de Luz and one quilt was distributed |
| June, July, August | Presbyterian Women                                        | Second Mile Center                                                | Monetary / Goods    | Annually                  | \$329.00+ collected plus donations of goods                                              |
| July               | Presbyterian Women                                        | Compassion Int'l                                                  | Financial           | Monthly                   | \$43.00                                                                                  |
| July               | Presbyterian Women                                        | Kids Hope                                                         | Service / Financial | Monthly                   | Zoom Director's meeting and filing for a total of 3 hrs. service                         |
| July 25, 2024      | Listening to Jesus: Responding in Faith Bible Study       | Hope Clinic                                                       | Service             | Monthly                   | Served 153 meals, 5 people, 18 hours                                                     |
| July 29, 2024      | Local Mission                                             | Hope Clinic                                                       | Service             | 5th Thursday of the month | Served 206 meals, 9 people, 29 hours                                                     |
| July 12 - 14, 2024 | Youth                                                     | Colina de Luz                                                     | Monetary            | Annually                  | Approx. \$7,700 raised                                                                   |

## Summer Picnic Wrap Up

What a lovely Summer picnic we enjoyed last Sunday! Good food, fellowship, and Lee's chicken always puts smiles on the faces of our church family. More than 140 folks enjoyed this old-fashioned potluck.

Thanks go to the many hands and committees who made the special day possible. Member Connect designed our lovely flyer. B&G go above and beyond with precise set-up in the Fellowship Hall and outdoors early Sunday morning. Thanks to the Finance Committee who has been there for three summers tearing down the outdoor picnic area. The Earth Care team is so very appreciated for washing our own dishes to reduce the amount of disposable tableware we use. The Hospitality ladies, Worship Committee members, and church friends make certain tables are prepared and decorated, beverages are made and served, and all of the delicious dishes are placed for the buffet. Did you notice the great youth helpers? Well, six of them volunteered to bus tables and scrape plates on a Sunday morning. And, Laura Craig and CE made certain there were activities for any children in attendance.

Many thanks to all who chopped, mixed, cooked, or baked your best dish to share with your church family and guests. God's bounty was abundant! This could not be done without all of you.

-Worship Committee

## A Sign that Things are Changing



Occasionally, life gives you a sign.

The sign reminds you that although so much of what we see on the outside looks the same, the inside is now different. Our new electronic church sign is a great illustration of what happens in the church at the beginning of a new church year.

The outside of the church remains much the same, but inside, the programs, the preaching themes, the Bible studies, and service opportunities all change.

We also change as we allow ourselves to respond to God's Holy Spirit at work within us. I invite you to embrace the change. Embrace the sign that God is at work helping us both to receive faith and also share faith with the community around us.

I am grateful to our church's Building and Grounds Committee and Session, for helping to make this new church a reality.

I pray that like this sign, we would find ourselves renewed as this church year begins. May our lives serve as the sign that brings others closer to God.