



NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2024 *Newsletter*

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Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the November/ December Newsletter!

Recognizing that this year, the space between Thanksgiving and Christmas is as minimal as it can ever be, it seemed fitting to plan ahead and make this particular edition of our monthly newsletter cover the events taking place both in November and December. We hope that this will be a guide and a blessing to those of you who like to plan ahead.

Right now, it's difficult to plan ahead knowing that our country is about to face impending change. As I write this, the 2024 Presidential election is still ahead of us. The press say that this particular election is too close to predict.

In the midst of great uncertainty, and an unknown future, we do what God's people have always done: we cry out to God in prayer.

I hope you will join us as we pray through this change and all the changes life throws our way.

On Wednesday, November 6th from 7:00 pm-8:00 pm in the Sanctuary, we will have the opportunity to pray for peace in our country following the election and to pray for others currently in need.

On Wednesday, November 13th from 7:00 pm -8:30 pm in the Upper Room, we will discuss how to care for others through all the changes of life.

Our church's Stephen Ministry is sponsoring an adult education opportunity which is free and open to both our church members and to the community at large.

Patricia Johnson will be our guest speaker. She is a board-certified hospital chaplain with over 15 years of combined hospital and hospice experience. She is also a Spiritual Director, and a Commissioned Ruler Elder within the Presbytery of Detroit. Pat is also the author of the 2021 book Listening for Life: Cultivating the Courage to Connect. **She will be speaking on *Listening for Life: Setting the Bruised Heart Free*.**

This speaking engagement is for anyone who has been or will at some time serve as a caregiver to parents, spouse, children, or others. **Our wonderful Deacons are providing a light supper prior to this speaking event in the church's Dining Room from 6:00 pm -7:00 pm.**

Friends, change is hard; but prayer and fellowship and the ministry of caring for one another is a blessing in the midst of uncertainty.

I thank God for the blessing of this church and your part in it,
Emily

November and December 2024 Worship Schedule

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

Sundays in November:

(November begins a new sermon series on Heavenly Questions)

Nov. 3, 2024 St. Andrew's Sunday and Communion celebrated at both services.
Daylight Savings Sunday (Fall back).
Rev. Campbell is preaching on "Heaven: How Can I Be Sure?"

Nov. 10, 2024 Rev. Campbell will be preaching on "Heaven: What Will It Be Like?"
Special Music in Sanctuary provided by: Carole Moon and Chris DuPont

Nov. 17, 2024 Rev. Campbell will be preaching on "Heaven: Will We Know One Another?"

Nov. 24, 2024 Thanksgiving Sunday. Joyful Ringers lead music in Sanctuary.
Rev. Campbell/ Ashley is preaching on "Heaven: Enjoying the Blessing"

At 4 pm on Sunday, November 24th Thanksgiving Festival.
Our Chancel Choir, The Joyful Ringers, and our ministers are all taking part in this special service **held at the Plymouth First United Methodist Church** located at 45201 N Territorial Rd, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Sundays in December:

(December begins a new sermon series on - Sensing God in Christmas)

Sunday, December 1, 2024 First Sunday in Advent. **Communion Service at both services.**
Preaching Theme: SENSING the HOPE of Christmas. Rev. Ashley is preaching.

Sunday, December 8, 2024 Second Sunday in Advent. **Chancel Choir Concert in Sanctuary (9:30 am)**
Preaching Theme: HEARING the JOY of Christmas. Rev. Campbell is preaching.

Sunday, December 15, 2024 Third Sunday in Advent. **Children's Christmas Pageant (9:30 am)**
Preaching Theme: SEEING the LOVE of God in a Child. Rev. Ashley is preaching

Sunday, December 22, 2024 Fourth Sunday on Advent.
Preaching Theme: TOUCHING the PEACE of God. Rev. Campbell is preaching.

At 7:00 pm on Sunday December 22nd . The Longest Night Communion Service.
Rev. Ashley is preaching, and special music supplied by: Chris DuPont and Kylee Philipps

Tuesday, December 24th, Christmas Eve Services will be held at 5 pm, 8 pm, and 11 pm
ALL Christmas Eve services will be held in the sanctuary.
Rev. Campbell will be preaching at all three services on SENSING God at Christmas.
At 5 pm soloists with the Brass Quintet will supply the music
At 8 pm the Chancel Choir with the Brass Quintet will supply the music
At 11 pm Chris DuPont and Kylee Phillips and friends will supply the music

Sunday December 29th is an on-line service only.

Beginning at 9:30 am you can watch through our website or Facebook or YouTube a brand-new service put together in advance that is full of surprises as we TASTE the joy of Christmas.

* The Chancel Choir sings every Sunday in the Sanctuary unless other music is noted.



Thank You For Helping us to “Shepherd in Our 190th Year”!!!

The 2025 Annual Stewardship Campaign was initiated in October.

Our Objective for 2025 is \$800,000.

Thank you in advance for your continued generosity and commitment to meet the ongoing needs of our church operations, committees, missions, and our dedicated staff.

If you have not yet made a pledge for the 2025 Stewardship Campaign, it's not too late. You can

submit an Estimate of Giving form you should have received in the mail, or one located in the Narthex at church, or by going to our website FPCP.Net under **Give+ 2025 Pledge Campaign**.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE October 19, 2024 STATED SESSION MEETING

Minister's Comments:

Rev Campbell reported that we will have 2 prayer sessions, praying for peace in our country and around the world. The sessions will be the Wednesdays before and after the election (October 30 and November 6, 2024 at 7:00 PM).

There will be a Caregiving discussion the following Wednesday November 13 at 7:00 PM. Pat Johnson will be a guest speaker.

Building and Grounds: Existing bushes are covering our new digital electronic sign from traffic heading east. They will be trimmed to allow clear view of the sign.

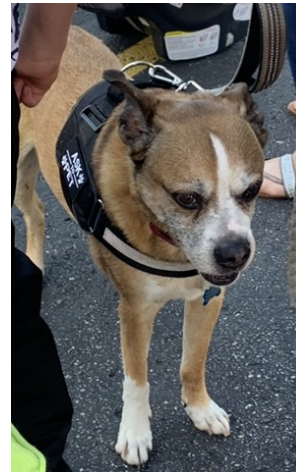
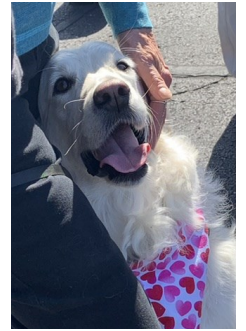
Christian Education: Thanks to all who participated in the Trunk or Treat activity and to B&G for parking lot traffic control to assure a safe activity.

Member Connect: 7 people have completed the Membership Exploration class and would like to become members of FPCP.

National/International Mission: Contributions from the Congregation have already been made to cover 423 Bibles for Malawi families who do not have a bible in the home. It is OK to go over the original goal of 500 Bibles since there are plenty of homes in need.

Worship: A coffee tasting has been scheduled to evaluate a new coffee machine that is being considered to improve the quality of coffee for church events.
Appreciation of the Hospitality committee who have been serving cookies, coffee and Juice every Sunday in addition to a very busy month of church activities.

A wonderful time was had by owners and pets alike at our first Blessing of the Animals which took place on Sunday, October 6, 2024. We were blessed with a gorgeous weather day and \$322.00 was raised for the First Step ARK (Animals Receiving Kindness). The photos below reflect the joy everyone experienced.





Kathy and Tom Weber



Sarah and Emerson Miller



Jennifer Nordin



Melissa and Kevin Henderson

Welcome To Our New Members

It was with joy that we welcomed seven new members into our church family on Sunday, October 27th. Please continue to welcome Tom and Kathy , Emerson and Sarah, Jennifer, and Kevin and Melissa as you see them in worship. We thank God for each of these new members and pray God's blessing upon them as they live out their faith here at FPCP.



On Sunday, October 20, 2024 our Stephen Ministry Leaders were commissioned by the Elders and Deacons of our church in both the Sanctuary and Upper Room services.

Over the next several months we will be continuing to educate the congregation on Stephen Ministry, begin the calling of congregants to become Stephen Ministers and formalize the training schedule for the people called.



Fair Trade is a way of doing business that ultimately aims to keep small farmers an active part of the world marketplace and aims to empower consumers to make purchases that support their values.

You can taste this coffee yourself on the first Sunday of each month as part of the Hospitality Team's refreshments.

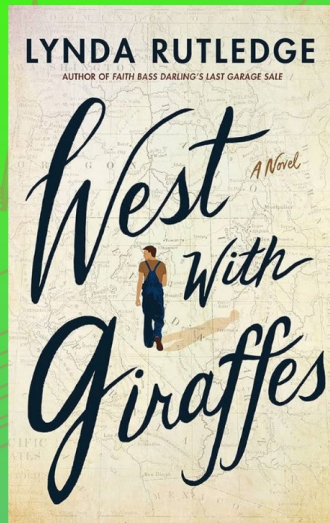
You will have the opportunity to purchase Fair Trade coffee and tea on Sunday, Sunday, November 3, 2024 and Sunday, December 1, 2024.

We have a variety of fresh coffees teas and organic candy bars to choose from including decaf, ground, flavored and whole bean.

**Great Stocking Stuffers!!!!
Easy Teacher, Hair Dresser, Mailman or Neighbor Gifts**

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

Presbyterian Women
Lunch and a Book
FALL 2024 READING LIST

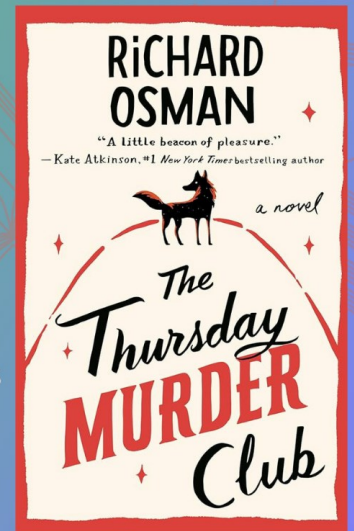


West With Giraffes
by Lynda Rutledge
November 6

**First Wednesday of the month
at 12 noon - Hearth Room**

Bring a lunch and your book
Questions? Contact Audrey Williams
awilliam1@msn.com

Thursday Murder Club
by Richard Osman
December 4



Women of Retirement Age Breakfast

This contains our Nov & Dec dates! We will meet at Red Olive on Ann Arbor Rd at 8:30am on Nov 19th and Dec 17th.

We have about a dozen ladies each month but there is always room for more! We welcome any of you ladies of retirement age! Join us!

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



November/December Children's Ministry Events



November Events:

**11/10- Christmas Pageant
Practice in the Sanctuary-
12:15-1:15pm**

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

11/20- Kid Connection-6-7:30pm

**11/24- Children in worship -
Parents please drop your child
off in room 134 at 9:30am.
Teachers will bring children into
worship. After we will go back to
the Sunday school classroom.**

**Christmas Pageant Practice in
the Sanctuary- 12:15-1:15pm**



December Events:

12/1- No Sunday school

**Christmas Pageant Practice in the
Sanctuary- 12:15-1:15pm**

**12/8- Sunday School Christmas
Party at 9:30am**

**12/13- Parents Night Out- 6-
8:30pm**

**12/15- Christmas Pageant in the
Sanctuary at 9:30am**

(There is no Sunday School 12/15)

**12/18- Kid Konnection Christmas
Party 6-7:30pm**

12/22- No Sunday school

12/29- No Sunday School

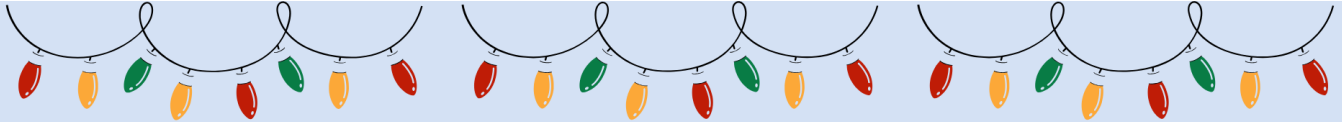


PAINT AND PRAISE PARTY



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH-
12:30PM-1:30PM IN FELLOWSHIP
HALL

CHILDREN COME JOIN US FOR
PAINTING, FELLOWSHIP AND
SNACKS.



YOUTH HAVEN CHRISTMAS TOY AND CLOTHING DRIVE - NOVEMBER 3RD-DECEMBER 1ST

Clothing needed:

Boys and Girls clothing:
Sizes 6/7 Youth up to Adult Large
Elastic waist shorts (modest length)
Elastic waist sweatpants
Appropriate T-shirts and sweatshirts
Underwear and socks
Tennis shoes

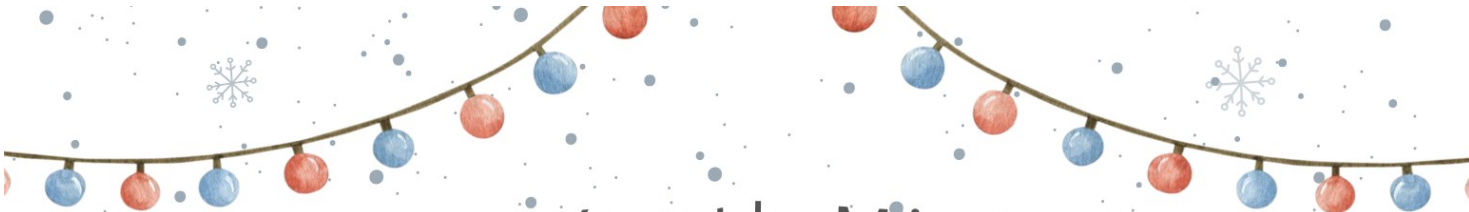
Please no flip-flops, 2 piece bathing suits, or tank tops

Youth Haven Amazon Wish List:
<https://a.co/fY8Vy4L>

Toys and other needed items:

Sports Balls/Nerf Balls
Art sets or craft kits
Baby dolls (All ethnicities)
Board games
Bracelet/Jewelry-making kits
Card games
Coloring/activity books
DIY project kits for boys
Legos
fleece blankets
Puzzles
Remote control cars
stuffed animals
Backpacks





FPCP Youth Ministry

NOVEMBER

AND

DECEMBER

Events

NOVEMBER 10

FPCP Bake Off

4 to 8:30 PM

DECEMBER 6

Christmas Party

7-9 PM

Questions?

Contact Patrick

734-453-6464 x120

patricktyrrell@fpcp.net





FPCP Youth Ministry

*Youth
Group*

FPCP youth group
Meets Sunday nights
from 6-8 pm at FPCP



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!



Christmas Poinsettia Order Form

Would you like to order a poinsettia for Christmas to decorate the church for the season? This can be in ***honor*** or in ***memory*** of a loved one or friend. Contributions can also be made to the flower fund. Please fill out the form below and include your payment and return in an envelope to the church business manager.

In ***Memory of:*** _____ In ***Honor of:*** _____

Name		\$25.00	
Address		# of Poinsettias	
		Flower Fund:	
Email		Total Enclosed:	

Please return form with check made payable to FPCP by Sunday, December 1, 2024.

Plants may be picked up after the 11:00 pm service on 12/24

SAVE THE DATE: SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING



Again this year FPCP will assist the Salvation Army with their annual Red Bucket Fundraiser to support area children and families this holiday season. Participants will ring in front of the Downtown Plymouth Starbucks. FPCP is responsible for 1-2 hour blocks per bell ringer, Friday and Saturday from 12-8pm on the following dates: 11/29, 11/30, 12/6, 12/13 and 12/14. Sign up signs will be available beginning Sunday November 3rd in the Narthex. Please consider participating in this worthwhile project to support our community. If you have any questions, please contact Dorothy Simescu at dorothysimescu@gmail.com or 734-634-3280(cell).

Let me know if I need to send any more information.

Thank you

Tina FitzGerald and Dorothy Simescu

DEACON NEWSLETTER UPDATES

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2024

CHRISTMAS CARD DISPLAY

The FPCP Deacons invite members to give a Christmas greeting to their Church family by posting a card on the FPCP Christmas Card Display in the Narthex through all of Advent. Traditionally members of the congregation donate to the Deacon's Christmas Card fund a dollar amount, large or small, that they might have spent on sending cards to other members of the congregation. We will have Christmas cards available to use in the Narthex and a Deacon available to post your card and take your donation next to the display board. Please consider sharing your Christmas joy with members of our Church family.



ATTENTION PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS

The Deacons want to let our FPCP college students know that we are thinking about them, so each semester at exam time we send gift cards along with an encouraging note. If you would like your student to receive a gift card from the church, we will need to know their current address.

If your student has changed their address since last year, or started school this winter, you can update their address with the QR code or send address updates to Julie Schryer at jschryer1@gmail.com by November 15, 2024. Thank you!

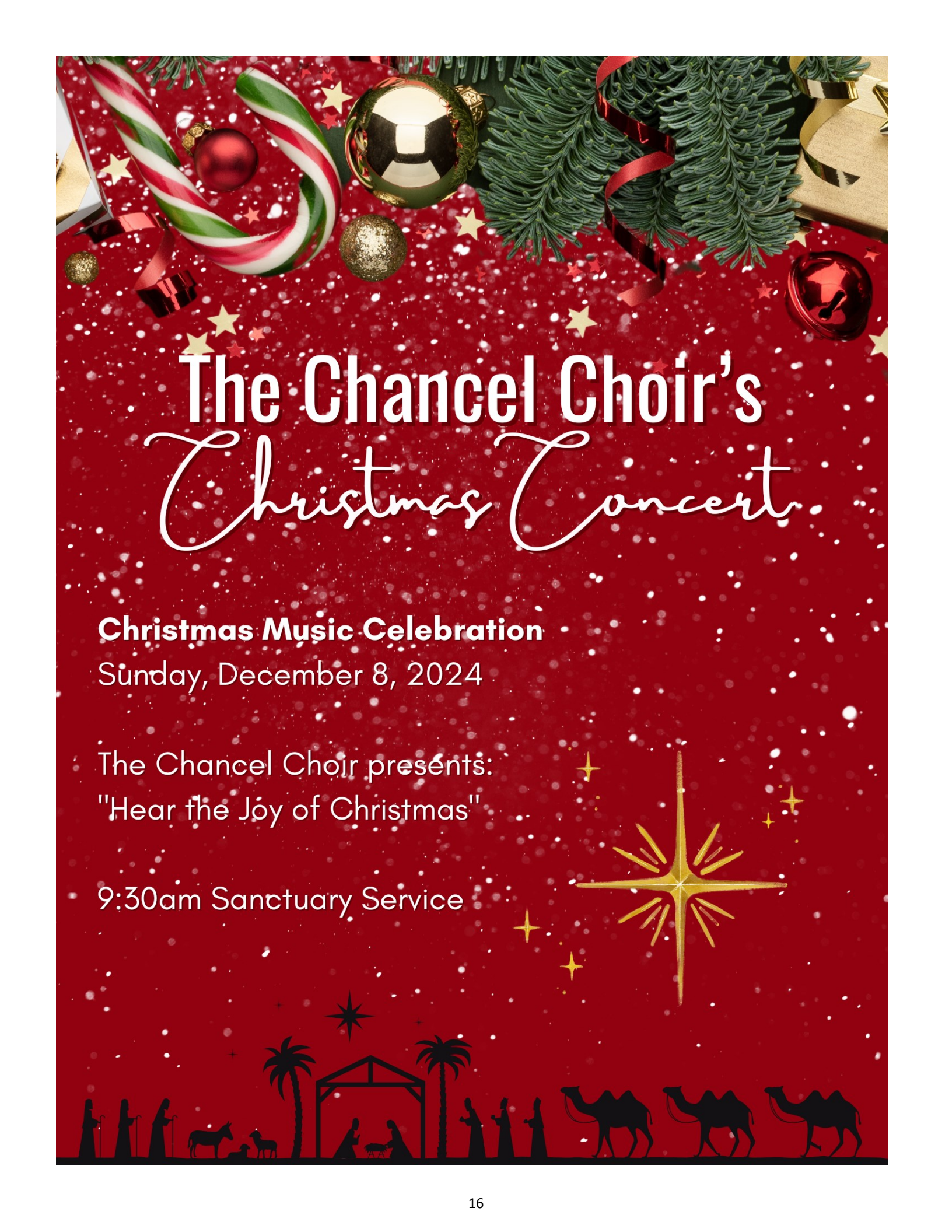
SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE

The Deacons are partnering with the Salvation Army Adopt-an-Angel Tree program to help ensure our community's families in need have a blessed Christmas this year.

To participate:

- Choose an Angel tag from the Angel Tree which will be located in the Narthex beginning November 20th.
- Gift suggestions are listed on each tag. It is not necessary to purchase exactly what is listed, nor is it necessary to purchase everything on the list.
- Secure the Angel tag to the top of your gift purchases.
- Bring your new, unwrapped gift(s) back to the Angel Tree no later than Sunday, December 15th.





The Chancel Choir's *Christmas Concert*

Christmas Music Celebration

Sunday, December 8, 2024

The Chancel Choir presents:
"Hear the Joy of Christmas"

9:30am Sanctuary Service





First Presbyterian Church invites you to the

All Things Christmas
FESTIVAL

Sunday, December 8, 2024

Come to our Christmas open house and view
our beautiful display of Decorated Tables
from 1:00-3:00pm

At 3:00pm in the Sanctuary, there will be a
free community Christmas Concert. Come and
listen to the songs of the season performed
by our Chancel Choir, Handbells, organ,
piano, and guitar.

At 4:00pm enjoy free Christmas hospitality.



Festival of TABLES

This year's Festival of Tables provides you with more opportunities to view the decorated tables. It's a shame that so much time is spent planning and executing these gorgeous tables only for it to be over in a few hours. We are hoping to remedy that by showing off our beautiful tables to the community and all of our church members. This plan, however, will require a bit larger time commitment on the hostess's part. The plan for hostesses is as follows:

Saturday, December 7th – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (approximate, possibly Friday too). On this day, hostesses would decorate their tables. All tables would need to be decorated on this day during this time.

Sunday, December 8th – 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., Festival of Tables Open House. You (or your chosen representative) need to be present at your table as we open the church to our members and the community to showcase our tables. We will serve all hostesses a quick lunch from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. Conveniently, immediately after the Open House on Sunday afternoon, the choir will have their Christmas Concert starting at 3:00 p.m.

Monday, December 9th, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. for those attending the event. The event will run as normal with a program, table viewing and dessert. If you wish to purchase a ticket (\$10.00) please see Peggy Kmiecik or contact one of the hostesses listed on the Presbyterian Women bulletin board. Please note that the Festival of Tables event will take place on the second Monday in December.

We are looking for a few more hostesses for this year's event. If you are interested please contact Ailsa Blunk at lemonblunk@gmail.com.



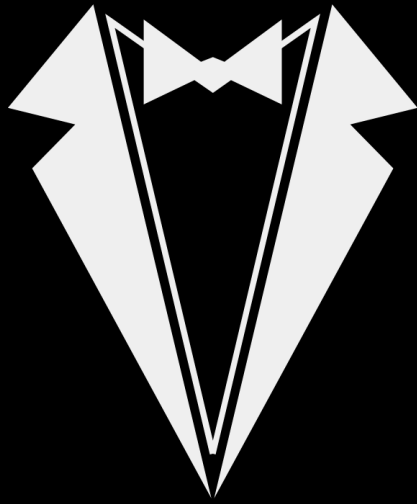
Nominations Sought for the 2024 "Carol Dodge" Award

In recognition of a remarkable woman who attended this church faithfully for over ninety years, Presbyterian Women created the "Carol Dodge" award. This honor has been awarded each year and goes to one woman within FPCP who exemplifies a Christ-like attitude through (1) prayer, (2) Bible study and (3) living out her Christian faith. Nominations for the 2024 "Carol Dodge" award will be accepted through November 24, 2024.

Nominations should list why the person nominated has made a significant impact to the life of FPCP based on the criteria listed above. All nominations will be reviewed, and the final selection will be made by a group selected by the Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team. All nominations should be placed in the Presbyterian Women mailbox in a sealed envelope, marked "Nomination."

If you are nominating someone, please place your name on the nomination letter. Further information may be needed. This award will be presented at the annual "Festival of Tables" which will take place on Monday, December 9, 2024. Thank you!

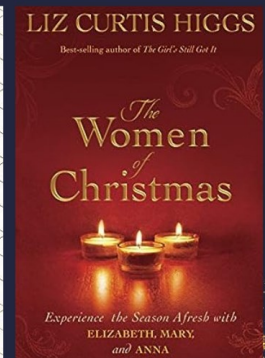
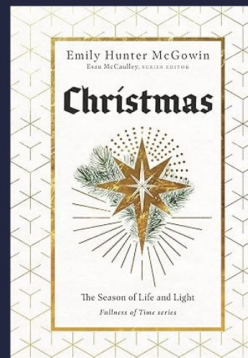
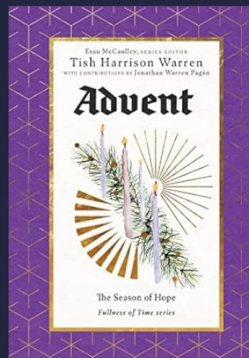
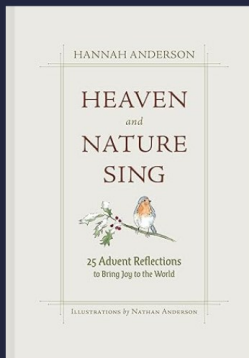
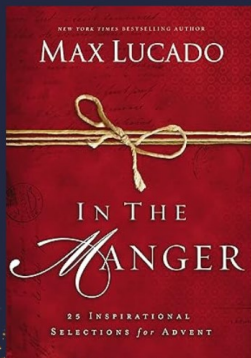
MEN IN BLACK Needed for Festival of Tables, Monday, December 9, 2024.



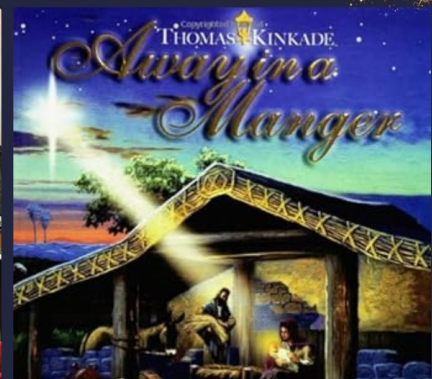
Men needed to serve at this year's Festival of Tables.

Qualifications: Male, black wardrobe required, willingness to serve dessert, tea, and coffee to the ladies of our church.

If you are interested in joining this special event, please contact Sandy Dodge (spdodge@comcast.net) by Wednesday, November 27, 2024. Thank you!



LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT *Advent & Christmas*



Presbyterian Women

Recycle, Reuse & Rejoice . . .

Christmas Lights Recycling

When those bulbs don't work, or the string is frayed, the color's wrong, or it's time to replace: Don't toss those old strings of lights! Bring them to church. We'll collect them and drop them off for recycling. This offer extends from Sunday, December 1st through Sunday, December 29th. You can also drop lights off yourself for recycling at your local Lowe's store. Please note that lights may be recycled throughout the year at Ann Arbor Recycling, 2950 E Ellsworth Road, Ann Arbor.

Some wrapping paper can be recycled. The wrapping paper that cannot be recycled is glossy foil or even if it has just a small amount of foil in it. The reason being that the paper dissolves during the recycling process, but the foil remains in threads that gum up the machines. Newspaper is always recyclable.



Tissue paper cannot be recycled because the paper fibers are too short. Ribbon and bows also cannot be recycled.

Real Christmas trees can be put out at the curb as is, without a bag. The boughs can be useful as mulch in your own backyard. Poinsettias usually will continue to grow long after Christmas or can be put out with your Christmas tree.

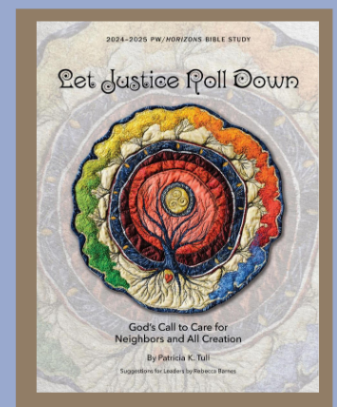
Please help your trash collectors by following these guidelines when putting your trash out to the curb.

Merry Christmas!!!!

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



PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Christmas Shopping Edition

FRIDAY, DEC. 13
6PM-9PM

Register
here



The Christian Education Committee invites FPCP parents to register for Parents' Night Out! We'll watch your children at the church while you enjoy an evening to yourselves. Nursery care will be provided for ages 3 and under, while ages 4-12 enjoy crafts, games, science, a snack, and a movie.

Register by scanning the QR code above or at <http://tinyurl.com/5n6y5nf6>. Don't delay; registration closes December 6 or when we reach 20 children, whichever comes first.

Invite your friends out with you, we're happy to watch their kids too!



Questions? Call Doug Heasley at dougheasley@hotmail.com

Young
INSTRUMENTALISTS

Young people that play a musical instrument are invited to participate in the prelude for the 9:30 a.m. Children's service on Sunday December 15th.

We will gather at the piano in the sanctuary at 9:00 so that we can begin the Prelude at exactly 9:15. Please be prompt!

Any questions please call or e-mail
Sue Scott - 734-453-1176 home
or 734-718-3491 cell - suecscott@comcast.net
here will be a sign up sheet on the wall in the church hallway starting November 24th.



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"

You could be a light in a student's life with one hour a week of encouragement, support and fun.
Bird Elementary Teacher & Principal comments
Bird Elementary Teacher & Principal comments

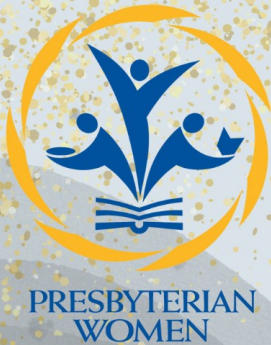


Mentors are so kind and take an interest in their student so the student feels special.

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

You could help a student feel seen, heard and valued in one-on-one meetings throughout the school year.
For more information about the mentor program, call Susan Johnson 734-751-9334.



WANT UPDATES ON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES?

If you would like to receive a monthly email with Presbyterian Women's upcoming events and minutes from our monthly PW planning meetings, please contact Jennifer Hollebrands
Jenniferhollebrands@fpcp.net to be added to our PW email list.

Women of the Word Winter Bible Study Jesus and Women

Understanding Jesus More Deeply by Studying First-Century History and Culture

By Kristi McLelland

Beginning Wednesday January 8 - April 9, 2025

(14 consecutive Wednesdays) at 10:00 - 11:45 AM

Meeting at FPCP with limited Zoom access

Imagine walking the dusty roads of Galilee with Jesus of Nazareth, braving jostling crowds just to touch the edge of His cloak and hear Him say, "Take heart, daughter, your faith has healed you." Those words, once meant to comfort a hurting woman's soul thousands of years ago, were also meant for you. Come join Women of the Word on those dusty roads as we are transported back to Jesus' world, stepping into the footsteps of the women who came face to face with the living God.

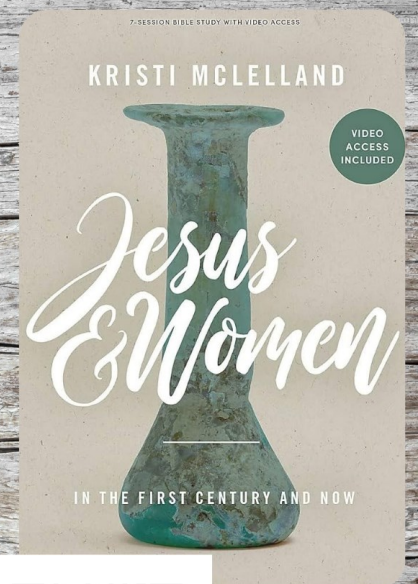
This 14 week (7 session) Bible Study will consist of a combination of large group video sessions with question and answers to follow and assigned small group discussion circles alternating every other week. Please register online with the QR code by January 4, 2025.

Purchase your workbook at:

<https://www.amazon.com/Jesus-Women-Bible-Access-Century/dp/1087773954>

or from any of your favorite book distributors.

Please contact Sue Kage at skage@comcast.net for further information or help purchasing your workbook.

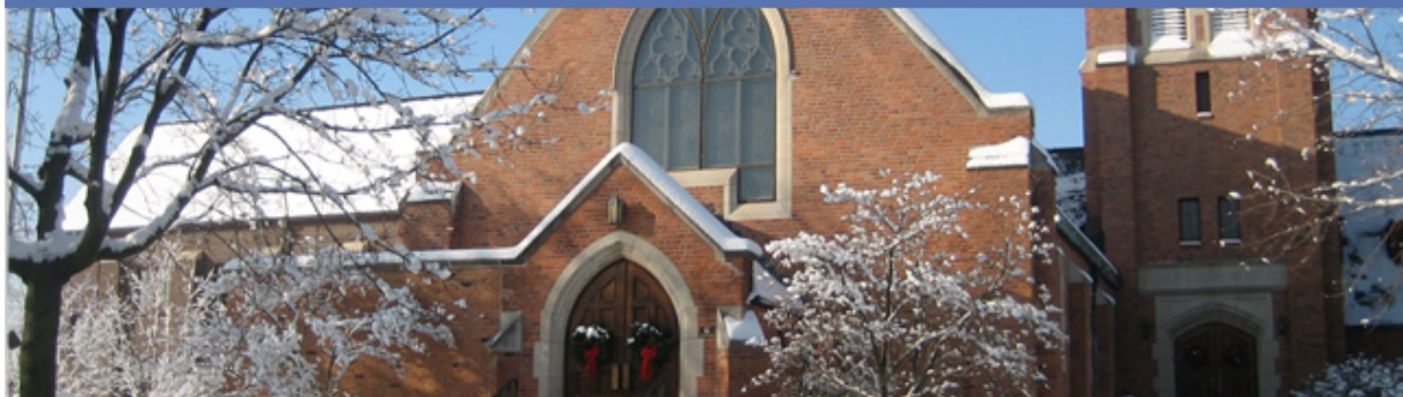


November and December 2024

Local Mission



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of PLYMOUTH



There are many opportunities to reach out with hearts and hands to those in right here in our own community

Upcoming Service Opportunities:

November 1 Hope Clinic "Evening of Hope" Gala
November 5 Local Mission Meeting 5:30-7pm on Zoom
November 8 First Step "You are the Light" Gala
November 19 Salvation Army Plymouth opportunity 9:30-11:30am
December 9 Serve dinner at Hope Clinic 3:00-6:30pm
December 30 Serve dinner at Hope Clinic 3:00-6:30pm
January 13 Thrift Shop Deep Cleaning 10-12- all are welcome!
January 27 Thrift Shop Deep Cleaning 10-12- all are welcome!

Thanksgiving Volunteer Spots: help us receive and distribute over 300 turkeys and dinner "fixins" the week before Thanksgiving!
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A49ABAE28A0FF2-50270800-2024#/>

Hope Clinic Holiday Market:

This Christmas, you can sponsor one of the critical services that Hope offers all year long, like a medical exam, a first-time dental cleaning, or a bag of groceries.
<https://thehopeclinic.org/hope-for-the-holidays>



Hope Clinic:

Pack a Thanksgiving/Christmas gift bag: Find instructions and drop-off schedules at the QR code for Thanksgiving Dinner "fixins" bags Christmas gift bags we'll hand out to clients during the month of December.



Kroger Rewards

ARE YOU SUPPORTING FPCP EACH TIME YOU SHOP AT KROGER, especially during this Thanksgiving and Christmas season? It is NO COST TO YOU and you keep your fuel points. LINK YOUR KROGER CARD TO FPCP!

As a Kroger Plus Card Shopper, you can support the mission work at FPCP. To participate in this FREE program, enroll your Kroger Plus Shoppers card in the Kroger Community Rewards program, designating FPCP as your recipient organization.
www.krogercommunityrewards.com

If you are already enrolled, you should see 'First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth' at the bottom of your receipt. Why not ask your relatives, friends and others to link their Kroger Plus Shopper's card with FPCP, too! It's easy. If you have any questions, contact Jean at 734-416-1760.

November and December 2024

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Thrift Shop Testimonial:

A woman from a local church came to the Thrift Shop recently to purchase yarn. Their Outreach program knits and crochets blankets, and then supplies them to a local hospital to wrap newborn babies that, unfortunately, did not survive. They also make angel keepsakes for the parents to help deal with their loss. Three large trash bags were filled and offered to the woman for FREE. She was insistent on paying (she had a budget) and was thrilled to receive the much-needed yarn for a negotiated price of \$50, which was half of the amount she was willing to pay.

A gentleman standing in the checkout line overheard the conversation and slipped the woman \$20. We were overwhelmed by his generosity, touched by this truly remarkable program which we did not know existed, and so very grateful that we were able to be a small part in helping in the healing process for these families dealing with loss.



November and December at the Thrift Shop:

It will begin to look a lot like Christmas at the Thrift Shop in early November.

- We are closed on November 27 and 28th and will reopen on November 30th .
- We will be open on Saturday, December 21st for last-minute shoppers but closed on December 24th.
- We will reopen on December 26th.
- We will also be closed on December 31st.
- Our last Wednesday night shopping for this year will be December 18th, and then will remain closed on Wednesday evenings in January and February.

We are in need of additional volunteers, especially on Saturday. If interested, please call Linda Luke at 734-812-4516. If you know of any high school students looking for community service hours, they are welcome! We also need help, every Monday from 10-12, cleaning, sorting and restocking. Follow us on Facebook for our weekly specials.

Salvation Army: There is an opportunity to volunteer to put together Thanksgiving meals on November 19th from 9:30-11:30am at the Plymouth location. Please check the Local Mission bulletin board for more opportunities to volunteer in the month of December with their toy sorting and distribution.





November and December 2024

Team from FPCP heading back to Malawi:

A group of four people from FPCP will be traveling to Malawi from November 2nd through 15th. Sue Kage, Pat Murphy, and Corinne Kee will be joining Doug Kee, who is already in Malawi serving with our partner Marion Medical Mission (MMM) installing wells. The team will be busy meeting with our partner church Mtenthera regarding the many ways that our churches work together, including our sponsorship program for girls living in the hostel that we funded, food security programs like the banana farming project FPCP sponsored, and many other ongoing initiatives. Most importantly, they will be providing the Word to church members by individually handing out the 500 Chichewa-language Bibles that FPCP members donated. Please pray for safe travel on the long trip and for discernment about ways that our partnership can grow.

Marion Medical Mission (MMM) Update

Our very own Doug Kee is working with MMM installing wells in Malawi and surrounding countries. As of mid-October, over 1,500 wells have already been installed! The team from MMM provides fresh drinking water to some of the poorest people on earth. They are still looking for funding for the 2024 well season, so if you feel called to donate, please go to mmmwater.org.



Malawi Hostel Scholarship Program

Please keep an eye out for more info in November as we wait for the school's official enrollment information to identify the girls that are most in need of assistance.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
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AS THE END OF THE YEAR APPROACHES DID YOU KNOW...

THERE ARE TAX EFFICIENT WAYS TO MANAGE YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS?

Here at FPCP, our prayerful consideration of giving is a foundational piece of who we are and what we strive to accomplish. Our Family gives in so many ways utilizing Time, Talents and Treasures to support our Church and its many missions. Continuously, our Family is known to be incredibly generous. Praise God for all we strive to do!

When it comes to our financial gifts there are many ways that we can give. Part of this consideration can lead to smarter ways to give that benefit both our Mission and the givers themselves.

Examples include:

- 1) **Establishing a Donor Advised Fund (DAF):** An account where you can deposit and manage cash and non-cash assets that are reserved for future charitable giving and offer potential tax savings and growth.
- 2) **Giving of Non-Cash Gifts or Appreciated Securities:** You may be able to give securities (e.g. stocks, bonds) directly to FPCP thereby avoiding taxes on the gains of those securities.
- 3) **Doing a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD):** Giving a portion of your IRA's yearly Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) directly to FPCP allows you to avoid declaring that income on your tax return. Also, naming FPCP as a beneficiary of your IRA at death can bring tax benefits.
- 4) **Leaving a Legacy Gift to the FPCP General Fund or Endowments:** Naming FPCP as a beneficiary of your will, trust or life insurance can go a long way in supporting the mission and activities of our church.

For more information, and to begin giving in an ***Advantaged Way*** please consult your financial advisor or a qualified tax specialist for the details as they relate to your financial situation. In addition you may find info under the "GIVE" tab on our website, FPCP.NET or call our Business Office at (734) 453-6464 ext. 116 for additional questions.

FPCP Mission Opportunities Completed in September, 2024

If you are interested in participating in any of these ministries, please contact Ailsa Blunk at lemonblunk@gmail.com.

Date	Sponsor	Benefitting Organization	Event	Monetary, Material Goods, Service	Frequency	Results
September 9, 2024	Listening to Jesus: Responding in Faith Bible Study	Hope Clinic	Prepare & serve meals	Service	Monthly	199 meals served, 5 people, 17.5 hours
September	Presbyterian Women	FPCP Building & Grounds	A donation was made to our B&G team as a thank you for all their support with our FPCP Quilt Show and Blessing of the Animals activities.	Monetary	Once	\$100.00 donation
September 15 -22, 2024	Local Mission	Hope Clinic	Collection, sorting and delivery of goods	Goods, Service	Annually	Approx. 6 hours of service - approx. 570 units of goods collected
September 26, 2024	Listening to Jesus: Responding in Faith Bible Study	Hope Clinic	Prepare & serve meals	Service	Monthly	153 meals served, 5 people, 17.5 hours
September 30, 2024	Local Mission	Hope Clinic	Prepare & serve meals	Service	5th Monday	200 meals served, 7 people, 24.5 hours
September	B&G	FPCP Members in Need	Handyman Initiative	Service	as needed	2 requests completed
September	Local Mission / Thrift Shop	FPCP & Community	Store operates to receive donations and resell to community. Money raised goes to our church's mission partners.	ALL	all year	approx. 288 volunteer hrs. provided each month
September	NIMC	Fitness in Christ Yoga	Yoga classes by optional donation to various causes	Service	Weekly	9 hours of service

September	Listening to Jesus: Responding in Faith Bible Study and Local Mission - Thrift Shop	Samaritas	Meet with new refugee families at the Thrift Shop so new families can get needed items for new home.	Goods / Service	as needed	Kiki Farrow met with Samaritas refugee resettlement agency workers and their clients at the FPCP Thrift Shop to facilitate their taking of goods, mostly kitchen, furniture and clothing. Two hours.
September 8 - 30, 2024	NIMC	Marion Medical Mission	Doug Kee worked throughout the month with Marion Medical Mission. They organized and equipped a team of volunteers, trained them and sent them into the field to install wells. He also installed wells with a team in northern Malawi.	Service	Annually	1,506 well pumps installed. Another 1,907 wells built (well dug, concrete cover built) and are awaiting pump installation.
Sept. 6th & Sept. 30	FPCP Partners in Earth Care	First Step Domestic Violence Shelter	Plant and maintain raised garden beds throughout summer to provide clients with fresh produce.	Service, Financial	Every 2 weeks throughout summer	Sept. 6, 3 people, 4.5 hours; Sept 20, 5 people, 7.5 hours
Sept. 20th & Sept. 30	FPCP Partners in Earth Care	First Step Domestic Violence Shelter	One volunteer has taken sole ownership of a flower garden bed at First Step.	Service	as needed	Sept 20, 1 person, 1 hour; Sept 27, 1 person, 3.5 hours
September	Threads to Heal the Heart Quilt & Prayer Shawl Ministries	Those in Need, Babies Baptized, etc.	Sew quilts and crochet/knit prayer shawls, pocket prayer squares, quilts	Service/ Goods	as needed	
September	Presbyterian Women	Compassion Int'l	Continued support of adopted child, Magda, young woman in Haiti.	Financial	Monthly	\$43.00
September 8, 2024	Presbyterian Women	Presbyterian Coffee Project	Sell Fair Trade coffee, tea & chocolate to raise awareness that small farmers are an active part of the world marketplace. Also to empower consumers to make purchases that support their values.	Goods	1st Sunday of each month	1-2 volunteers set up each sale day to sell coffee after each service



Many, many, thanks go to John Roose, Mike Bode, Perry Evitts, Steve Marulis, and Tom Macdonald for designing, building, staining, installing, and outfitting the fixtures on this beautiful new church door which is now installed on the Church Street side of the church facing Adams Street. Thank you for filling our church and its hallways with light. Your time and talents are a blessing to us all!

**The Church Door Opens Wide
(Author unknown)**

A heavy oak, with hinges worn,
A threshold where the lost are born,
The church door stands, a welcoming sight,
Inviting souls to step inside the light.

The door, a portal to the divine,
Where burdens lift and spirits shine,
A place to seek, a place to mend,
A sacred space, where love transcends.

So step across, with open hand,
Embrace the grace this house of God has planned,
For in this door, a promise lies,
A sanctuary where the soul can rise.