



Fenton First Presbyterian Church Newsletter November 2017

Living with Christ, serving the world

Mark Your Calendars

November 4th
Turkey Dinner

November 5th
Pledge Sunday

November 6th
Outreach Communion

November 12th
Deacon Sunday

November 17th-19th
30 Hour Famine

November 19th
Peace & Global Offering

November 22nd
Community
Thanksgiving Service

November 23rd
Thanksgiving

November 26th
St. Andrew's Day Service

November 28th
Giving Tuesday

Pastor's Article...

Living In Thanksgiving I walked into the Temp Agency and Ms. Metz beamed, "How are you today?" I was home for the summer and needed a job. I needed a job that I could easily leave behind and wouldn't take too much brain power. I had walked in to this particular temp agency because a friend of mine knew the fellow who had started the business in order to assist young people in an underserved neighborhood and, as a favor to him, I was one of their first temporary employees.


I needed a job. I needed something to do and a little money. I needed to figure out what I was doing with my life. I had just come to the conclusion that I could not be a Music Major any longer, but I had no idea what I should be doing. I needed to declare a new major in the Fall and I was far from deciding.

I needed a little money because I was beginning to date a girl I had known for a long time and maybe this was going to be a serious relationship. Serious relationships took money; Serious money.

So when Ms. Metz asked me, "How are you today?" I responded with my normal distracted and evasive answer.:

"I'm hanging in there." Pausing, she tilted her head and gave me a funny look like a toy poodle listening to a tea kettle. Then she pointed her finger at me and said with a big grin, "Alright then, but don't you let go!"

I was struck with her response. She obviously thought that I was lacking in my answer. I implied that I was somehow being buffeted by worldly tempests and barely managing. This was not really the case. I was on summer vacation from college. I was living rent free at my parent's house. I was healthy, well fed and even had a vehicle at my disposal (my father's 1966 Chevy C-10 Longbed). How could I have been barely hanging on?



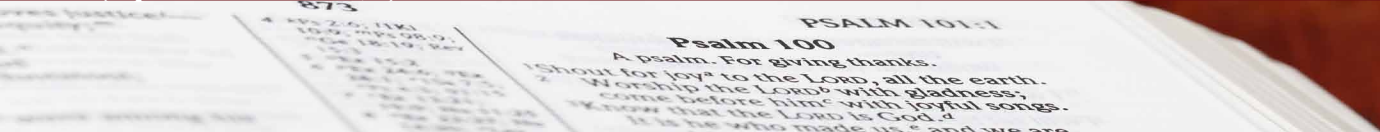
Above all, I am alive with Christ and saved by grace. I was dead from sins and trespasses but my Father in heaven who is rich in mercy and immeasurably rich in grace and kindness, has raised me to life. There is no good gift given that doesn't come from him. I have all I need and even when I lack, I trust that God withholds no good thing from me. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, what do I need to fear? I am in the hands of the Almighty, where else could I be more confident and more at peace?

I still respond to people who ask me, "How are you doing?" with "I'm hanging in there." It's a reflex now, but it isn't correct. I may be tired one day or depressed another; I may be grieving or hungry or worn out. But through thick and thin, through bad days and good day I am fundamentally sound. My hope is built on nothing else but Jesus' blood and he is my righteousness.

I am doing much more than hanging in there. I am gratefully living each day given to me by our Father in Heaven. Maybe my new response should be, "I am grateful!"

Pastor Robbie Carnes

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love...to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. (Ephesians 1:3-4,6)



Mission & Stewardship

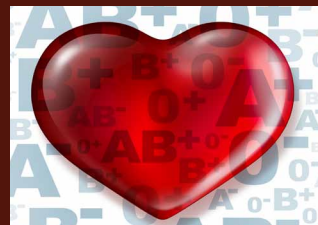
2017 CROP Walk



Over 100 people from the Fenton churches showed up to walk in the 2017 CROP Walk on October 1st including about twenty people from our church. This was Fenton's 37th annual walk for the Fenton, Lake Fenton, Linden and Holly area. Walkers proceeded past various stations within Bush Park designed to raise hunger awareness, as well as around downtown Fenton. Alternately, participants could sit and rock at one location or could do Jazzercise at another.

Approximately \$14,000 is raised each year through this walk to "end hunger one step at a time." One-fourth of the money raised this year will be used to support three local agencies: FISH (Food Pantry) in Linden, St. Jude's School Lunch Program and Fenton UMC Food Bank.

Winter Blood Drive

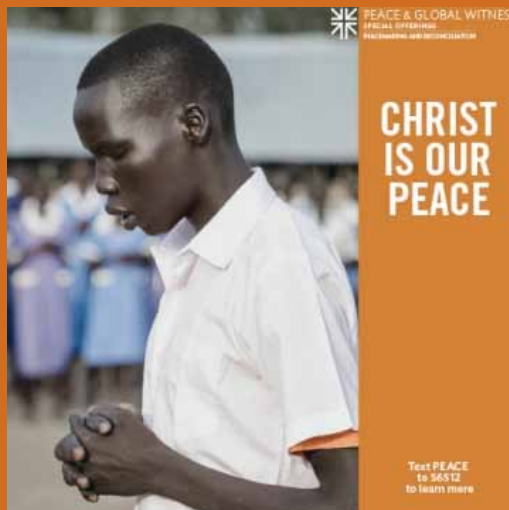


Did you know a shortage of all blood types happen during the summer and winter holidays? Our winter blood drive is Saturday, December 2, from 9am to 1:45pm. We have three ways you can schedule your time to donate: online-www.redcross.org., call Red Cross @ 1-800-733-2767 or contact Sherry Hunt @ 810-735-6428 or Jo Beardslee @ 810-750-9768 and we will guide you through the process. If you do not wish to donate we also need volunteers and cookie bakers for the day. Thank you for your support.

Peace & Global Witness Offering: Blessed are the peacemakers

As followers of Christ, our call to work for peace begins in our own neighborhoods and extends to the end of the earth. It is a demanding call, but it's one that Presbyterians at all levels of the church are seeking to follow. Giving to the Peace and Global Offering on November 19 is one way we can be faithful to Christ's call to pursue peace at home and around the world.

25% percent of this Offering stays with our church to build up peace in our community, 25% expands our witness throughout the region supporting ministries of peace and reconciliation in local Presbyteries and Presbyterian Synods, and 50% supports the global witness to Christ's peace through the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and the reconciliation work of the Presbyterian World Mission.



To read more information about the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and the Presbyterian World Mission, you can access the following two websites.

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/peacemaking/>

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/world-mission/>

#GIVINGTUESDAY™ A Global Day of Giving

You've heard of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Have you heard of Giving Tuesday? On November 28th, 2017 consider giving for the common good.

Here are some ideas:

- *FFPC Sacred Music Fund
- *FFPC Youth Camp and Conference Scholarships
- *Completing the Miracle FFPC Building Fund Campaign
- *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance <https://pda.pcusa.org/page/give/>
- *Fenton UMC Food Pantry <http://fentonumc.com/outreach/food-pantry>
- *Fenton Area Resources and Referral <https://www.farnnetwork.org/>
- *PCUSA Denominational Missions <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/E132192/>

"Go and Do the Same." Pledge Sunday is November 5th



Faith in Femininity mission collected 65 boxes of pads and tampons and \$632.18 to purchase these feminine hygiene products for impoverished women and teen girls in the Flint area. Lindsey Gibb and Waverly Ritchie are overwhelmed by your support and generosity to this mission, and hope to grow this program into an ongoing mission project for the Fenton community at large. All donations will be taken to Carriage Town Ministries in Flint.

New Member & Outreach

Photo Directory update: The final proof is off to print! Many thanks to all the volunteers who made this possible.



The New Member and Outreach Committee would also like to thank all the volunteers who participate in our fall activities (Ghost Walk reception and Halloween Trick-or-Treat Event). We really enjoy working with you all and having fun in the community!



SAVE THE DATE!!!

Simply Carols on Sunday, Dec. 10

If you love to sing Christmas carols, this event is for YOU! We will go in small groups to sing at care facilities and then meet back at church for light refreshments and singing carols in the Sanctuary with tree lights lit. Details to come.

And, as always, thank you for extending a warm FFPC welcome to all who visit our church!!

Congregational Life

SAVE THE DATE

The FFPC Turkey Dinner is Saturday, November 4, 2017. Tickets are available NOW. Seating is limited to the first 150 tickets. "TO GO" tickets will also be available. Elders and Congregational Life members, and the parish office have tickets, \$12 for adult, \$10 for 65 and older and \$5 for kids 12 and under. For more information, contact Roy Fetzer at 248.807.0016.



Breakfast with a Christmas Angel

Sunday, December 10th
10am
Fellowship Hall



Families and grandparents are invited to bring their little ones for a continental breakfast, craft, Christmas hymns and to take their picture with the angel. At the beginning of 11am worship the angel will share the Christmas story with all of God's children. The Congregational Life and Christian Education Committees hope this event adds to the awe and wonder of this holy season.

Christian Education

Fall Bible Study

Sunday Morning Bible Study is discussing Ephesians with a companion book Reading Ephesians with John Stott. The intro from the book states, "Ephesians is a marvelously concise yet comprehensive summary of the good news and its implications. Nobody can read it without being moved to wonder and worship, and challenged to consistency of life. The letter focuses on what God did through the work of Jesus Christ and what he does through his Spirit today in order to build his new society in the midst of the old." Led by Pastor Robbie, this class meets in the Conference Room from 10-10:45am through November 26.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study is be reading and discussing The Letter to the Galatians and Ephesians from William Barclay's New Daily Study Bible series. Join Pastor Lindsey in the Conference room from 11am – 12:15pm. Books are available in the office for \$12 each.

Women's Groups

Wednesday Morning Women's Covenant Group will continue to study Daniel: Lives of Integrity, Words of Prophecy by Beth Moore through November 29 from 10:00am – 12:00pm. Our group has gotten so large that we will now be meeting in Fellowship Hall. Participant books are \$16 and few extra are available. Please see Tina Ritchie if you have not reserved a book and would like to join the group!

The Women's Covenant Group is preparing to be a ministry partner for McFarlan House, an assisted and independent senior living facility for women in Flint. We will be providing conversation, prayer, hymn singing and activities once or twice a month from 1-3pm on specific dates. Vanessa Skaff and Michelle Eisert from our women's group are coordinating a visitation schedule with McFarlan staff. Women interested in joining our efforts are welcome to sign up beginning in November. We will definitely be caroling at McFarlan House on December 10! Watch for more details in upcoming Sunday bulletins and the next newsletter.

Book Binders will be meeting November 14th at the home of Maureen Utt, 16170 Aspen Hollow Dr., at 7:00 pm. The hostess for the evening is Jan O'Connell. The book for discussion is The Life and times of the Thunderbolt Kid by Bill Bryson. Please call Jan at 248-496-4424 with any questions or Maureen at 810-701-2336 for directions. There is not a book for December, however, everyone is encouraged to bring a devotion.

Giving Christmas Tree

The Book Binders

will once again sponsor a "Giving Christmas Tree". The tree will be located in the New Narthex. The items requested are mittens, hats, scarves, socks, underwear, or pajamas. All items in children's sizes up to size 16.



Mens's Groups

Men's Covenant Group: Join Pastor Robbie 8 am the 1st Saturday of the month at a local restaurant, and 6pm the 3rd Sunday of the month in a member's home. This group will soon be reading and discussing the book Wild at Heart by John Eldredge, and continues to meet for prayer, fellowship, reflection and support for spiritual growth. Contact Pastor Robbie for more information and to get on the email list.

Financial Peace Corner

**“Owe no one anything, except to love each other for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.”
Romans 8:13:**

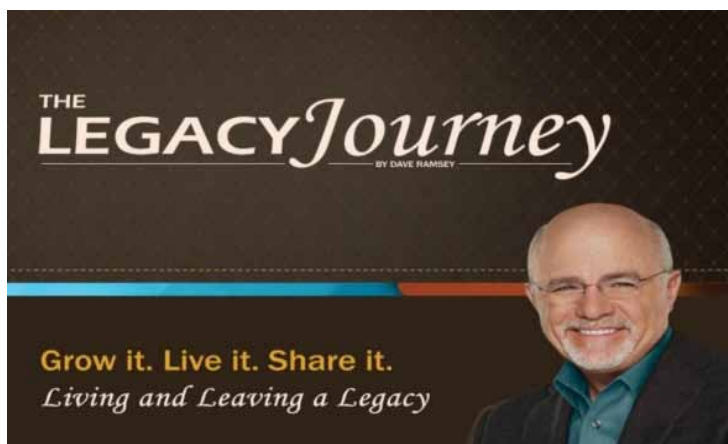
Many of you are familiar with Dave Ramsey and his life-changing class, Financial Peace University. What if all your money questions could be answered in just one night, and all that was required of you was a desire to learn and an internet connection? The Smart Money Live-Stream Experience will give you the proven plan for dumping debt and building wealth in seven steps, all from the comfort of your own home. You'll get a clear vision for your family's financial future while learning to work together and communicate more effectively with your spouse. Join Dave Ramsey and Rachel Cruze for this one-night-only event that will change you the trajectory of your life forever!



Millions of people have found the freedom that getting out of debt can bring to their lives. Whether it's credit cards, student loans, or even your mortgage, being free of debt gives you the opportunity to give more of your time and your talents than you ever have before.

Our church wants that type of financial peace for all of you. So we're planning something special here on the evening of November 7. Beginning at 8:00PM, FFPC will host a live stream of Dave Ramsey's Smart Money event. Admission to the live stream is FREE, but this is the ONLY date and time that the event will be held, so sign-up now.

Attendees are advised to download the special event app before attending. The Smart Money event app is free and available for Apple and Android devices. [Search for Smart Money Live Stream in the Apple or Google Play stores and install as you would any other app.](#) The app not only provides a link to the event guide but also important links and resources for additional downloadable material and sponsor links. [Attendees will also have a chance to win over \\$1,000 in cash.](#)



FPU Legacy Journey course will be offered 6-8pm Wednesdays January 3 – February 14. The Legacy Journey is a seven week, biblically based class that teaches you how to truly live and leave a legacy for generations to come. This class will lead you deeper into investing, basic estate planning, purposeful living, safeguarding your legacy, and discovering the keys to generational wealth and true generosity. Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small-group activities, you'll learn a biblical framework for living intentionally now so that later you'll be able to leave a legacy

that will secure your family's future and make a lasting impact on the world around you. Led by Larry Zimble, class membership material costs \$110 per family and meets in the Conference Room. Register online at www.daveramsey.com/legacy/, or contact Larry at larry@4squaretax.com.

Youth Group



Youth Group, Soup & Talk Our first event was October 15th. Middle schoolers met at Annabeth Carnes' house and high schoolers met at Waverly Ritchie's house. Both groups shared a simple meal of soul & salad while discussing peer pressure and how it affects our decisions, the value we place in things, and how we can show God's love when faced with situations of discrimination and judgement. High schoolers also talked about how groups of people define themselves, which can cause separation in lieu of building understanding between people. It is important that we first simply see each person as created by God, and then seek to understand. Thank you to Heidi Ritchie and Pastor Lindsey for leading Jr. high discussions, and to Jenny Gibb for assisting with Sr. highs.

The next Youth Group, Soup & Talk night takes place January 28, 2018. Middle schoolers will meet at the Skaff house and high schoolers will meet at the Gibb house. Please see Tina Ritchie if you are interested in hosting one of the groups for future discussions.

Youth Bible Study continues to meet on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30am in the Youth Room. We are currently exploring the time period of Expectations in the New Testament portion of the book CASKET EMPTY by David L. Palmer. Often referred to as the intertestamental period, this time period covers the 400 years between the end of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New testament. Just as God used the 400 years of slavery in Egypt to prepare Israel for redemption through the Exodus, God used these 400 years to prepare the world for redemption through Jesus. Come and learn how God did just that!

Upcoming Youth Group Activities:

All meetings are at church from 5-7pm unless noted.

Please RSVP on the youth bulletin board for all off-site and mission events!

To get on the youth email list, contact Tina Ritchie at tina@ffpc.org or text 810-701-4136. Friends are always welcome, and must have a current parental consent form on file for offsite events.

October 29: Spookey Trails 5-8pm

November 4: Serving Turkey Dinner 5-8pm

November 12: Safe Dates Program 5-8pm

November 17-19: 30 Hour Famine 7pm Friday – 9am Sunday

November 26: No Youth Group – Happy Thanksgiving

December 3: Triple C Night – Cards, Crafts & Cookies! 5-7pm

December 9: Salvation Army Bell Ringing 10-11am & Panera 11-noon

December 17: Christmas Party & Sky Zone 12-5pm Cost \$20



7pm Friday, November 17 – 10am Sunday, November 19

Are you Hungry for Action? Youth and adults are invited to participate in this year's 30 hour Famine. Join us for a few service projects, tribal games, lessons on the effects of hunger and the importance of education, and devotions. We'll end the fast with communion 8am Sunday morning before attending 9am worship.



ZONTA

CLUB OF
FENTON AREA

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

Parents, youth and interested adults are invited to attend the "Safe Dates" program at our church on Sunday, November 12, from 5-8pm. Sponsored by Zonta and presented by the YWCA, this program teaches preteens and teens to "Expect Respect" through healthy dating. It gives both warning signs and what to look for, empowers both teens and parents to recognize and remove themselves from unhealthy relationships, and opens the door for teens and parents to effectively communicate regarding these issues. Please RSVP by November 9 to Tina Ritchie at tina@ffpc.org.

Jr. Highs: Massanetta Middle School Conference June 25-29, 2018

Theme: TBA

Cost \$400

\$100 deposit is due Dec. 15, 2017

\$300 balance due by May 1, 2018

Registration info available Dec. 1st!

Sr. Highs: Montreat High School Conference July 15-21, 2018

Theme: Lift Every Voice

\$100 deposit is due Nov. 19, 2017

Total cost \$600 for a seven day conference

Includes conference cost \$270 + housing, meals and transportation

We will be doing fundraising to offset costs.

Please see Tina Ritchie for more information and scholarship requests.

LIFT EVERY VOICE

June 3–August 4, 2018

montreat.org/youth



3 EASY Ways You Can Help Make A Difference

1

DID YOU KNOW...The children can leave their offering in the offering plate after the "time with children," before they leave for Carpenter's Corner. Please see one of the Pastors or Tina Ritchie with questions.

2

Direct Your Dollars! Drop off your ENTIRE VG's receipts to the receptacle in Fellowship Hall. This new VG's rewards program benefits the youth scholarship account!

3

Bottle Drive: You may drop off your returnable bottles to the receptacle in the youth room on an ongoing basis.

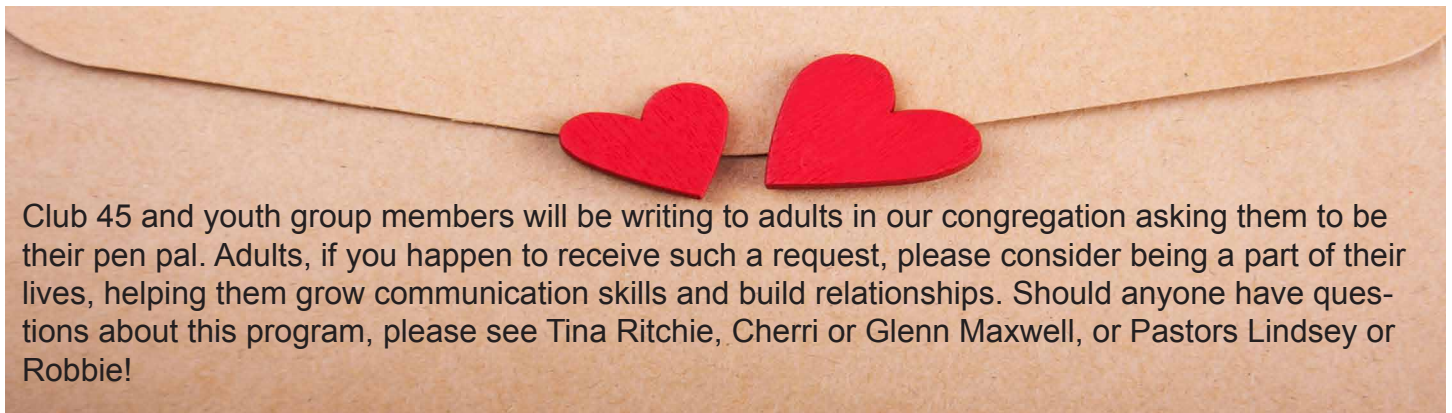
Thank you from Youth Group for all of the wonderful donations for college care packages. We packed 5 very full boxes with personal notes to college freshman, and wrote 5 additional letters to some of our older college students. No matter their year in college, our young adults appreciate the connection with their church family. Please see Tina Ritchie if you'd like to send a personal note to Noah Crawford, Tabatha Dolan, D'Onte Fetzer, David Hall, Colin Hodgkin, Madison Janowak, Emily Kinser, Logan or Oliva Kirkey, and Elizabeth Thomas.

Childrens Program

Worship Schedule for Children Preschool – 5th Grade

Club 45:

All 4th & 5th graders and friends are invited to this fellowship and mission group that meets in the Art Room from 12:30-1:30. Please bring your own pumpkin to the next meeting on Sunday, October 29 for pumpkin carving! We meet again November 12 to make Thanksgiving and Christmas cards. For more information, please see Cherri or Glenn Maxwell.



Club 45 and youth group members will be writing to adults in our congregation asking them to be their pen pal. Adults, if you happen to receive such a request, please consider being a part of their lives, helping them grow communication skills and build relationships. Should anyone have questions about this program, please see Tina Ritchie, Cherri or Glenn Maxwell, or Pastors Lindsey or Robbie!

New Nursery & Preschool News:

During the month of November, during 9am worship preschoolers will be learning about Abraham. The class objective is to help children understand that when you obey God, His blessings will be yours to treasure. Through God's promise to Abraham, we can understand God's promises to us. God promised Abraham that he would be the father of nations. Abraham trusted God's promise with complete faith and obedience. From the assurance that he would have a son, to the sacrifice of that son, Abraham never wavered from his trust in God. We can rejoice in the fact that God is faithful to us, never betrays our trust, and keeps His sacred promises.



Memory Verse: Genesis 22:17 "I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore."

New additions to the FFPC Lending Library. Books were purchased with the proceeds from the library book sale that took place earlier this year.

1. [Parenting with Love and Logic](#), by Foster Cline, MD and Jim Fay
2. [Grandparenting with Love and Logic](#), by Foster Cline, MD and Jim Fay
3. [Parenting Teens with Love and Logic](#), by Foster Cline, MD and Jim Fay
4. [Love and Logic Magic for Early Childhood](#), Jim Fay and Charles Fay, PhD

Children's Program JAM "Jesus and Me"

This program takes place during 11am worship. This Sunday school program for children preschool through 5th grade explores a year of living in the Fruits of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23 *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law."*

Our third rotation on PEACE runs October 29 – November 19 and begins with a Peach JAM session. The children will learn that PEACE is amazing because of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Our days can often be filled with stress, anger, worry, and fear. God's PEACE is exactly the opposite of all those feelings. If we rest and quiet our minds and souls before God, we remember who God is and learn to trust Him completely.



November Peace Memory Verse: *John 14:27 "Peace I leave you; my peace I give you. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."*

We will be practicing PATIENCE, the fourth quality of the Fruit of the Spirit, during our fourth rotation running November 26 – December 17. During Sunday morning class time the children will be preparing for the Christmas Pageant on December 24 for 7pm worship.

December Patience Memory Verse: *Romans 8:25 "But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently."*

*****Recruitment for JAM teachers and shepherds has begun. Rotations are 3-4 weeks in length with shorter class time on communion Sundays so that everyone can return to worship to receive communion. Please visit the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall or contact Tina Ritchie for more information.**



Worship

November Worship Schedule

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2017, Communion Sunday
Faith that Works: Hearing and Doing, James 1:19-25
9am Worship & Communion
11am Worship & Communion
Layreader: Larry Arrol
Ushers 9am: Dennis & Jo Beardslee
Ushers 11am: Team #3
Communion Servers 9am: TBD
Communion Servers 11am: TBD
Sound Tech: Logan Kirkey
Coffee Hour: Yellow Team
Counters (Monday): Martha Smith & Sara Wrage
Banker: Jonathan Wensel
Nursery: JoAnn Beardslee
JAM: Sherry Rourke, Cheryl Kopplin, Jenny Gibb, Lindsey Gibb, Madeline Gibb

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2017, Deacon Sunday
9:00am Worship
11:00am Worship
Layreader: Larry Arrol
Ushers 9am: TBD
Ushers 11am: Team #4
Acolytes: Chloe Muntin & Emily Hollopeter
Sound Tech: Kate Kirkey
Coffee Hour: Green Team
Counters: Shirley Israel & Ken Wensel
Banker: Roy Fetzer
Nursery: JoAnn Beardslee
JAM: Sherry Rourke, Cheryl Kopplin, Jenny Gibb, Lindsey Gibb, Madeline Gibb

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2017, Peacemaking Offering
Faith that Works: Sowing the Seeds of Peace, James 4:1-12
9:00am Worship
11:00am Worship
Layreader: Youth
Ushers 9am: Jack Allen & Greg Dean
Ushers 11am: Team #5
Acolytes: Matt Maxwell & Lauren Janowak
Sound Tech: Mark Grams
Coffee Hour: Blue Team
Counters: Bob Brownlee & Julie Jacobson
Banker: Debera Bard
Nursery: JoAnn Beardslee
JAM: Sherry Rourke, Cheryl Kopplin, Jenny Gibb, Lindsey Gibb, Madeline Gibb

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2017, St. Andrews Day
Faith that Works: While We Wait, James 5:7-19
9:00am Worship
11:00am Worship
Layreader: Jane Motta
Ushers 9am: Jim Lindsey & Mark Jacobson
Ushers 11am: Team #6
Acolytes: TBD
Sound Tech: Ina Golden
Coffee Hour: Violet Team
Counters: Jon O'Connell & Lin Savage
Banker: Amy Probyn
Nursery: JoAnn Beardslee
JAM: Sherry Rourke, Tina Ritchie, Annabeth Carnes

Outreach Communion

Who said Communion just happens on Sunday mornings? The next two dates are Mondays, Nov 6 and Dec 4 at 11:00am in the Sanctuary. Each month this fall we're trying out a shorter Communion service, filled with energetic hymn singing, a shortened version of the Sunday sermon, and the bread and juice/wine served in the pews. We're trying to make this a "barrier free" worship experience--with large print bulletins, amplified speaking, and helpers to assist with walkers, wheelchairs, or to just lend a hand. Come for worship, stay for fellowship around tables in the Fellowship Hall. For questions or rides, please call Dave Eshleman or the church office.



Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is dressed for fall! Please take a moment in the main church entry to ponder its messages, and take one as needed for yourself or as inspiration for a friend. Thank you to Barb LaPointe for the tree's beginning and to Jan Jacobs & Julie Jacobson for the seasonal update!

Advent Season Dates

Worship, Learn, Serve

November 22: Community Thanksgiving Service at 7:00pm at St John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Followed by pie in the Activities Hall

November 26: St. Andrews Day
Celebrating our heritage and witnessing to Fullness of Christ's Church
9am Worship Service
10am Fellowship
11am Worship Service

December 3rd: 1st Sunday of Advent, Hope
9am Worship Service
10am Fellowship
11am Worship Service
Blue Christmas Service 5pm

December 9th: Salvation Army Bell Ringing

December 10th: 2nd Sunday of Advent, Peace
9am Worship Service
10am Breakfast with a Christmas Angel
11am Worship Service

December 17th: 3rd Sunday of Advent, Joy
9am Worship Service
10am Fellowship
11am Worship Service Choir Cantata,
The Winter Rose by Joseph Martin
Youth Christmas Party
Intergenerational Caroling Party

December 24th: 4th Sunday of Advent, Love
10am worship service
7pm Family Christmas Eve Service with
Children's Pageant
11pm Christmas Eve Lessons and
Carols Service

1st Sunday After Christmas Day
10am Caroling Service



Community Thanksgiving Service:
Wednesday, November 22 at 7:00pm at St John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Consider making the Community Thanksgiving Service part of your holiday traditions. This is a great way to celebrate our unity together and thank God together for our blessings. Combined choirs and musicians from FFPC, Fenton Methodist and St John's. Followed by pie in their Activity Center.



Blue Christmas Service: Sunday, December 3, at 5:00pm at Fenton United Methodist with pastors from our local churches.

On this night, we remember those for whom the holidays are not joyful; they are lonely, in mourning, feeling alienated and cast apart from family celebrations; they are experiencing depression and sadness and yet are often compelled to "put on a happy face" for others, denying their true feelings. As we gather, we embrace and claim the darkness that is present both in the world and in our own lives. As people who are familiar with the darkness, we also know that we gather to be illumined by the light of the Christ Child this Christmas season. May the Christ Child, born in a lowly stable, himself an out-cast and marginal, bring light, comfort, peace, and joy this holiday season.

Prayer Ministry Team

Members of this group are praying for each family in our congregation. They recognize how challenging it is for families to find time to connect in today's culture, and ask you to consider the following suggestion and guidelines:

- Ideally a family eats together most evenings. Given the demands on time, this goal may need to be modified.
- Resolve to gather for a family meal at least one day a week and that day could change from week to week.
- Begin the meal with a prayer... spoken or silent.
- Turn off all electronics for mealtimes. If the land line rings let it go to voice mail.
- Talk about "good" things. Postpone gripe sessions to clean up time or an after dinner walk.
- Or compose your own goals. The overall goal is to benefit from being a family.

We'd love to hear how making a commitment to share a regular meal together enhances your family life. Please drop a note in the office or send an email to David Eshleman at eshlemandl@gmail.com.

This group continues to meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 10am in the Sanctuary. Those who are able are welcome to join us!

Staff Submission

As I was assembling the newsletter this month, this submission from the Prayer Ministry team came through and I thought I would share my personal story...

Family dinner was always important in my family as I was growing up, and I had always hoped to keep that tradition strong within my own. Yet during the past couple of years, our family had unfortunately fallen out of this habit. Hectic work schedules, new family additions, doctors appointments as well as pressure to keep our kids busy with after school activities and daily life stresses all seemed to just get in the way.



I started to feel a disconnect, there no longer seemed to be a time for us, just us as a family, to sit together and share our joys that the day had brought. I recently made a conscious decision to find that "family time" for us again, and dinner seemed a great place to start. It has been a week now that dinner has been on the table and everyone has been present every evening. Some nights it may not get served until 7pm so that my husband may join us after work, but I can already see the positive impact that it has made on us as a family. We smile, laugh and share much more about our day now, which is something I think we all so dearly missed. If you don't already, I encourage you to find that time, you won't regret one moment.

Kelly Sunman-Davis, FFPC Administrative Assistant

BIRTHDAYS

Kate Kirkey	Nov 1	Michael Cupp	Nov 15
Chris Anderson	Nov 3	Noah Crawford	Nov 17
Kelsy Hoerauf	Nov 6	Amy Fetzer	Nov 17
Cathy Hollopeter	Nov 6	Joanne Getz	Nov 18
Christopher Browne	Nov 7	Spencer Sutherby	Nov 19
Nancy Casteel	Nov 7	Harold Skinner	Nov 21
Chris Gilbert	Nov 8	Shirley Walker	Nov 23
Cheryl Sharpe	Nov 8	Sara Wrage	Nov 23
Joy Thompson	Nov 9	Sheila Blank	Nov 24
Erin Bradley	Nov 10	Maggie Sheppard	Nov 24
Joan McLive	Nov 10	Lee Black	Nov 25
Jonathan Wenzel	Nov 10	Thomas Allen	Nov 26
David Harper	Nov 11	Sam Wilson	Nov 26
Dave Johnson	Nov 12	Aulene Becker	Nov 27
Chas Kopplin	Nov 12	Jerry Hope	Nov 28
Leah Wilcox	Nov 12	Wayne Oosterhoff	Nov 29
Bruce Fowler	Nov 13	Lorraine Eshleman	Nov 30
Annabeth Carnes	Nov 14	Blair Warren	Nov 30
Larry McMellen	Nov 14		

ANNIVERSARIES

Cathy & Wayne Oosterhoff	Nov 8 2008
Brent & Debbie LaVanway	Nov 10 2001
Ron & Pam Andersen	Nov 12 1961
Dan & Ellen Horton	Nov 17 1990
Chris & Donna Anderson	Nov 26 1977
Keith & Denise Morris	Nov 29 1986



Financial Report

Building Fund Report

We would like to recognize and THANK our members for their faithful giving to the Building Fund over MANY YEARS! We now owe \$380,823.34 to complete paying off the almost \$1.7 million renovation project. So we have paid 78% of the project as of now.

Building Fund-Completing the Miracle (6/1/16-5/31/19) As of September 30, 2017


Pledged	\$351,941.00
Received to date:	\$206,531.01
Building Fund	
Account Balance:	\$28,863.34
Mortgage Remaining:	\$380,823.34

General Fund Report as of September 2017

	Actual	Actual YTD	Budgeted YTD
Receipts	\$26,056.96	\$252,634.74	\$234,923.00
Disbursements	-16,636.88	-220,955.81	\$234,923.00
Cash Balance	\$9,420.08	\$31,678.93	

September budgeted income & expense was: \$26,103.00

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:00 AM–12:00 PM Men's Work Day 10:00 AM–12:00 PM Women's Covenant, FH 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Financial Peace University, CR 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM Lamplight Choir, DR 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Bell Choir, CHR 7:00 PM – 7:30 PM Illuminate Choir, DR 7:45 PM – 9:15 PM Chancel Choir, Sanctuary	2 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM Mission & Stewardship Meeting, CR 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 2, FH 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 3, FH	3 Turkey Dinner Set-Up	4 1:30 PM Genesee County Health Department Inspection 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM Men's Covenant Group 5:30 PM-8:00 PM Turkey Dinner
5 Pledge Sunday 9:00am Worship Service 9:30am-10:30am Youth Bible Study YR 10:00am 10:45am Adult Bible Study CR 11:00am Worship Service 12:30 PM-1:30 PM Blood Pressure Check FH	6 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM Outreach Communion Sanctuary & FH 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM Tiger Den FH 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 4 YR 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Boy Scouts FH	7 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM Bible Study CR 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM Congregational Life Meeting CR 7:00 PM – 8:45 PM New Member Outreach Meeting YR 8:00PM – 11:00PM FPU Smart Money Live Stream	8 8:00 AM–12:00 PM Men's Work Day 10:00 AM–12:00 PM Women's Covenant, FH 4:00 PM – 4:30 PM All Staff Meeting, CR 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting CR 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Financial Peace University, CR 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM Lamplight Choir, DR 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Bell Choir, CHR 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Fellowship Hall Reserved by Member 7:00 PM – 7:30 PM Illuminate Choir, DR 7:45 PM – 9:15 PM Chancel Choir, Sanctuary	9 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 2, FH 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 3, FH	10 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal	11 Wedding
12 Deacon Sunday 9:00am Worship Service 9:30am-10:30am Youth Bible Study 10:00am 10:45am Adult Bible Study 11:00am Worship Service 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM Safe Dates Program	13 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Prayer Ministry Team, Sanctuary 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Cub Scouts, YR	14 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Christian Education Meeting	15 8:00 AM–12:00 PM Men's Work Day 10:00 AM–12:00 PM Women's Covenant, FH 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Financial Peace University, CR 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM Lamplight Choir, DR 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Bell Choir, CHR 7:00 PM – 7:30 PM Illuminate Choir, DR 7:45 PM – 9:15 PM Chancel Choir, Sanctuary	16 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 2, FH 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 3, FH	17 30 Hour Famine Begins	18 30 Hour Famine 8:30 AM- 12:30 PM- Food Bank of Eastern Michigan
19 30 Hour Famine Ends Peace & Global Offering 9:00am Worship Service 9:30am-10:30am Youth Bible Study 10:00am 10:45am Adult Bible Study 11:00am Worship Service 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Men's Covenant Offsite	20 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM Tiger Den FH 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Admin Committee Meeting 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 4 YR 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Boy Scouts FH	21 6:30 PM - 8:30 Session Meeting CR 7:00 PM-9:00 PM All Pack Meeting FH	22 8:00 AM–12:00 PM Men's Work Day 10:00 AM–12:00 PM Women's Covenant, FH 4:00 PM All Staff Meeting, CR 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Financial Peace University, CR 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Community Thanksgiving Service , 7:00pm at St John the Evangelist Catholic Church.	23 Happy Thanksgiving! 	24	25
26 St Andrews Day Worship Service 9:00am Worship Service 9:30am-10:30am Youth Bible Study 10:00am 10:45am Adult Bible Study 11:00am Worship Service	27 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Prayer Ministry Team, Sanctuary 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Boy Scouts, YR	28 Giving Tuesday 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM Deacon's Meeting	29 8:00 AM–12:00 PM Men's Work Day 10:00 AM–12:00 PM Women's Covenant, FH 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Financial Peace University, CR 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM Lamplight Choir, DR 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Bell Choir, CHR 7:00 PM – 7:30 PM Illuminate Choir, DR 7:45 PM – 9:15 PM Chancel Choir, Sanctuary	30 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 2, FH 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 3, FH		

If you would like to schedule an event or have a current event that needs updating, please contact Kelly Sunman-Davis at the church office **Phone:** 810-629-7801 **Email:** office@ffpc.org

WAYS TO GIVE

There are many different ways that you can give back to the Fenton First Presbyterian Church. **Together we can make a difference!!**



Online Giving: An easy and convenient way to give. Just visit the Presbyterian Mission Exchange link in the Giving section of FFPC.org website. A fast and SECURE way to give back.



Church Giving: You can give during one of our services by placing your check or cash in the Sunday offering plates. When giving cash, please complete a giving envelope so we can properly record your gift.



Automatic Bank Pay: You can set up payments through your financial institution by utilizing the bill pay feature. Simply use First Presbyterian Church as the payee and your name for your account information. Saves on postage!!



Non-Cash Giving: Assets or Planned Gifts



Mail offering to Church:
Fenton First Presbyterian Church
503 S. Leroy
Fenton, MI 48430

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR MISSION!

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