

Living with Christ, serving the world

Pastor's Article... Love and Dating on Ash Wednesday

This February holds a distinct feature this year, in that Ash Wednesday is the same date as St. Valentine's Day, February 14th. This hasn't happened since 1945. It would be easy to imagine loving couples spurning the imposition of ashes and instead using the Saint's day to liven up an otherwise somber beginning

of the season of Lent. Of course, if you take your Love to an Ash Wednesday service and go out afterward, a smudge of ashes will complement many attires and provide for a matching feature for the pair.

It was in 1091 that 'Ash Wednesday' began an official Roman church celebration, marking the beginning of Lent. This decision was a correlation of the biblical tradition of donning sack-clothes and sprinkling ashes on ones head as a sign of repentance and mourning and the season of Lent as a time of reflecting on our mortality and to 'repent and believe in the Gospel'. Traditionally it has involved fasting. In the Western Church the fast lasted from Monday to Saturday each week of Lent with Sunday being a feast day. This is why we sing about the 40 days of Lent whereas Ash Wednesday is always 46 days before Easter. The 6 Sundays are not included in the fast days.



Mark Your Calendars

February 2nd & 3rd Ski Trip

February 4th Souper Bowl of Caring

Februay 10th Shelter of Flint

February 14th Ash Wednesday

February 28th Lenten Simple Meals

It would seem that none of this has to do with a Saint who is the patron of lovers and devotion. Would it surprise you that before the 1300's Valentine wasn't connected with romantic love? It is supposed that it was Geoffrey Chaucer and his ilk that co-opted the saint's day, artfully convoluting Valentine with the late-winter/ early spring season and with the benefit of centuries and the Halmark company we have today what we know today as St. Valentine's Day. We know precious little of the original Valentinus. The only thing for certain is that he was martyred. Some say that he was secretly marrying young soldiers and their fiancés so that they could avoid going to war. Others suggest the simple act of trying to convert the Emperor Claudius II earned him a beating to an inch of his life and then beheading outside the gates of Rome. It is also suggested that Valentinus had previously been in prison. After praying for the warden's blind daughter, she was miraculously healed and the warden's family were all converted to Christianity. Valentinus kept up a relationship with them and awaiting his execution, for further conversions, he wrote to the once blind daughter of the warden a letter of encouragement and signed it, "your Valentine." It is not unusual for saint's lives to develop far from their origins, especially through artistic means like that of Chaucer's poetry.

It is because of this historical freedom to retell the lives of saints to point to a broader story that I try to suggest how one might celebrate St. Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday on the same day. Some Catholic authorities suggest that St. Valentine's Day celebrations be mixed into our annual Mardi Gras frolics and your take your Beloved out on Fat Tuesday the 13th for Paczkis rather than the 14th for chocolates.

The season of Lent is not to celebrate our own suffering or achievement through self-deprivation, but that of Christ's and what Christ has accomplished. All of the fasting and somber remembrance is really a celebration of the manifestation of Love. During Lent we recognize that we have been given a love that we do not deserve. In many ways Lent is the church's annual appreciation of Christ' love.



-1 John 4:16

So would it be appropriate to take your beloved out for a romantic dinner with ashes smudged on your fore-heads? Yes, because while somber observation is appropriate, celebrating Christ's love by celebrating the love Christ has given us seems good and proper.

In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. (1 John 4:10)

Pastor Robbie Carnes

MISSION & STEWARDSHIP



Human Trafficking Forum – January 21, 2018

Members from our church as well as the community met on Sunday evening to discuss human trafficking in our county and what we can do about it. In its various forms, it amounts to slavery in our times! More than 75% of the victims in the US were born and raised here. Approximately 1 million men, women and children are victims. Approximately \$40 billion a year is generated from human slave trading.

Mr. Steve Kramer from the Michigan State Police described how prevalent it is, how easily it occurs and how vigilant we need to be. If you know someone is in immediate danger, call 911. The national human trafficking hotline is always available to request help or find services: 1-888-373-7888.

Ms. Amy Rouleau described her personal story as well as the plans to construct a Restoration Place to house and help heal up to 12 girls at a time. They have purchased the land and are about half-way to obtaining enough funds to build the home. We are encouraged to assist in their fund-raising efforts by: (a) donating your loose change in a jam jar and returning it to our church by February 25 or (b) making a donation via website (www.RestorationPlace.org) or via mail (P.O. Box 37, Swartz Creek, MI 48473) or in person.

Mrs. Polly Sheppard, an elder in our church and on numerous relevant boards in Genesee County, described the many facets of the efforts in Genesee County to address this huge problem. Polly described how we can be part of the solution. Please let Polly know how you would be willing to help.



SHELTER OF FLINT MISSION OPPORTUNITY

On Saturday, February 10, 2018 we will carpool from our church at 8:30 am for a workday at the Shelter of Flint from 9 am - 4 pm. Please consider joining us to do a variety of maintenance tasks, which may involve cleaning, painting, sorting, organizing, etc. Lunch will be provided. If you are interested, a sign-up sheet is in Fellowship Hall. Contact Maureen Utt (810-701-2336 or mauutt@charter.net) with any questions.

THANK YOU!!



A big "Thank you" for all our Salvation Army Bell Ringers on December 9. Thankfully, we did not have extremely frigid weather and we were further warmed by generosity of our neighbors.

Thanks from Mission and Stewardship Committee



Souper Bowl of Caring food drive is on Sunday, February 4. All food donations will be given to the FUMC Food Pantry. Donations can be put in the bins located in the main entryway by the stairs. All monetary donations will be given to the Restoration Place fundraiser.

YOUTH MISSIONS





Faith in Femininity founders, Lindsey Gibb and Waverly Ritchie, were interviewed in December by Femi Redwood from NBC 25 News & FOX 66. There will be a follow up story when the rest of the packages are delivered to Carriage Town Ministries — we are waiting to hear back from them for a delivery date. Additionally, on January 8 Lindsey, Waverly, Madeline Gibb and Maris Ferguson were recognized by the Lake Fenton Community School Board for their involvement in community service with this mission. Lake Fenton Schools are currently working with the girls to organize a donation drive; the girls are also in contact with Fenton and Linden schools, and Visions In Motion Dance Studio has offered to be a collection site for products.

Faith In Femininity provides feminine hygiene products to low-income and homeless women in the Flint area. They are hoping to expand into Fenton and the larger Genesee county area. Monetary donations can be made through our church website www.ffpc.org/faith-in-femininity, or send a check to First Presbyterian Church in Fenton marked "Faith in Femininity." Please note that if you donate through the website, you will need to create a profile; all of your contact information is kept con-

fidential. Anyone interested in donating products should see Lindsey or Waverly. Your support of this mission is greatly appreciated!



Presbyterian Mission - The YAV Experience

The Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program is a faith-based year of service for young people, ages 19-30, in 22 sites around the world and in the United States. YAVs accompany local agencies working to address root causes of poverty and reconciliation while exploring the meaning and motivation of their faith in intentional community with peers and mentors. YAVs serve during the academic year, August to July.

Program benefits during the YAV year include a regular stipend, housing, transportation assistance and student-loan repayment options throughout the duration of the service year. Follow @yavprogram for program updates & apply online at youngadultvolunteers.org/apply.

Application Dates for 2018/2019 YAV year:

- March 1, 2018 Round 2 (Most sites available, final date to apply to international sites)
- June 1, 2018 Round 3 (National sites only, limited spots available)

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Seder Dinner - Tues. March 27th, 6:30pm



Come and enjoy wonderful food and fellowship as we share a meal that has been celebrated for over 3000 years. We will learn how the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples is similar to the Seder

meal and enrich our understanding about our celebration of communion and fellowship with other believers.

Cost is; \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors, and \$7 for children 12 and under.

This includes a dinner of traditional Jewish dishes, sampling of symbolic Passover foods, as well as a wonderful program explaining the Seder Meal. Traditionally 4 glasses of wine/juice are consumed during the meal. Tickets will be available beginning in March.



Drama & Dining

Sunday February 25, 2018 at 2:00pm

Join FFPC Members & Friends for a Fenton Village Players Production of "Things My Mother Taught Me"

Followed by a marvelous Meal & Fellowship at the Fenton Hotel

Meet at the Playhouse or Plan to Ride Share

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



<u>Sunday Adult Study:</u> The Scots Confession of 1560 led by Pastor Robbie and Rev. Jim Foster from 10-10:45am in the Conference Room.

<u>Monday evening Women's Covenant:</u> "Daniel: Lives of Integrity – Words of Prophecy Part I" led by Pastor Lindsey in the Conference Room from 6:30-8:30pm through Feb. 12; Childcare is provided.

<u>Tuesday Bible Study:</u> "The Letter to the Galatians" led by Pastor Lindsey in the Conference Room from 11am – 12:15pm.

<u>Wednesday morning Women's Covenant:</u> "Dwelling in God's Peace" led by Tina Ritchie in Fellowship Hall through Feb 21, from 10am –noon.

<u>Men's Covenant Group:</u> Group meets the 1st Saturday of every month at a local restaurant for fellowship and the 3rd Sunday of every month at a home to share, study and pray together. Current reading and disscusion is "Wild at Heart" by John Eldredge **all men are welcome**; please provide Pastor Robbie with your email so that you can receive handy reminders.

<u>Legacy Journey</u> Led by Larry Zimbler in the Conference Room Wednesdays through February 14 from 6-8pm.

LENTEN SIMPLE MEALS



Join us Wednesday evenings in Fellowship Hall February 21 – March 21 for a simple meal of soup & salad beginning at 5:45pm. From 6:30-7:30 we will discuss Walter Brueggemann's book Praying the Psalms, concluding each evening with a vespers service. This intergenerational event will explore the many facets of emotions expressed in the Psalms. Childcare is provided for children birth - preschool.

Prayer Ministry Group

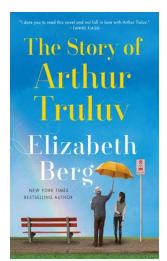
How often are you able to make time to talk with God? Whether you have conversations throughout the day, once a day, or occasionally, you are welcome to join us and deepen your prayer life. Praying with others can bring clarity to your life; intentional group prayer can also be helpful to our life together as a faith community. Our Prayer Ministry Group meets the 2nd & 4th Mondays of each month from 10-11am in the prayer corner of the Sanctuary. For more information, see David Eshleman. Please join us as you are able for readings, meditation and prayer!

"Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:12-13



McFarlan House Women's Ministry

Our first official meeting was January 3rd where we pulled BINGO for the residents. Had we not been there, BINGO would have been cancelled due to them losing their Activities Director! This was great fun and a wonderful way to get to know the ladies. We are meeting with the residents at least twice a month, mainly Wednesdays from 1:30 -3pm, for fellowship, prayer and other activities. Women interested in joining our efforts must fill out a volunteer form and are asked to see Vanessa Skaff or Michelle Eisert from the Women's Covenant Group.



Book Binders will be meeting February 13th at the home of Nancy Parkin, 308 S. Lemen St. at 7:00 pm. The book for discussion is <u>The Story of Arthur Truluv</u> by Elizabeth Berg. The book for March is <u>Christ the Lord out of Egypt</u> by Anne Rice. Please call Nancy at 810-241-6497 if you have any questions.

Thanks to all who so generously placed items on the "Giving Tree," sponsored by the Book Binders. The items were given to the Salvation Army.



CHRISTIAN PARENTING



Attention Parents and Grandparents: Did you know that all studies show parents are the #1 influence of faith formation in their children? Here are a few of the many verses in the Bible with instruction to parents on sharing faith with their children:

Deuteronomy 6:6–7 "And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

Ephesians 6:4 "Parents, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it."

To assist you in faith lessons for your children, consider signing up for a FREE monthly values based newsletter from Spark House. The Values Project is a year-long initiative designed to equip families to raise children who thrive emotionally, socially, and spiritually. Get inspiration, practical ideas, family activities, and parenting tips from their network of seasoned parents and faith leaders, because it takes a village to raise a good human. Each month explores a different value—like honesty, loyalty, creativity, kindness, and more. Use this link to register: http://blog.sparkhouse.org/category/the-values-project/. For more information on other resources, see Tina Ritchie. Below is an article from January's newsletter.



Raising Honest Kids in a Dishonest World

by Tera Michelson from sparkhouse.org
It was a parenting moment to remember. While putting away clean laundry, I found the top of an antique dresser freshly marked with a carving. The offending tool, a contorted paperclip, still lay nearby, mocking me. This was going to take more than a little mama spit to fix. It didn't take much sleuthing to find the culprit: the carving was the full name of my middle child. What's a Mama to do? I reacted. Poorly. I freaked out, actually. I asked the question that set up my boy to lie. "Did you do this?" I mean,

clearly, he had done it. It was his name, a signature. He swore it was his younger brother, who lacked the skills and height to create such handiwork. After days of denial and blame (did I mention that my boy is strong-willed?), came a river of tears and, finally, a confession.

Honesty can be elusive in this complicated world. Lying, cheating, blaming and stealing—dishonest behavior comes so naturally to us. A quick flip through the Old Testament confirms it: the lies of Eve and the serpent in the Garden of Eden, the trickery between Jacob and Esau, poor Joseph was sold into slavery by his own brothers. Deceit and fraud is nothing new on the timeline of humanity. In the living laboratory of my household, I've learned that teaching my family about honesty best comes in one form: by example. In typical parenting fashion, this is easier said than done. (cont on P. 8)

(Raising Honest Kids in a Dishonest World cont.)

Remember That You Are Under Observation

Driving above the speed limit? Your little mathematician sees that as cheating. Calling in sick to take a fun day off? Faker! Our half-truths and little white lies teach our children that dishonesty is an acceptable method of avoiding punishment and ramifications. Make every effort to take honest actions. Your kids take notice.

Speak the Truth

Teach your children that your words matter. Follow through on what you say you'll do. Don't set up a consequence that you can't keep. If you say you are going to leave a store if your child does not stop whining, then be prepared to abandon your cart and exit. Make sure your child knows that you do what you say.

Reward Honesty

When the truth does come out, reward your child. Thank him, hug her, make sure they know that there's nothing they can say that will make you love them less. Consider skipping punishment for the dishonesty, and offer grace instead. The point is to set up a relationship with your child that calls for a lifetime of telling the truth, even if it is not what we parents want to hear.

You will make mistakes. We all do. Thankfully, Jesus was sent onto the scene with a new plan—forgiveness and love. Lead your family with the peace of mind that only Jesus can give. You are not alone!

YOUTH NEWS



15 youth and 7 adults had a blast sledding at Clover Beach on Sunday, January 14. Even with light snow, the hill was fast and fun! You're never too old to play like a kid.



Youth Sunday is February 25th - "Renewed in the Spirit"

This worship opportunity allows members of youth group to write, organize and lead all parts of worship. High school seniors choose theme and lead the message; this year Kara Kinser and Keira Clemens will share faith stories on what it means to be renewed in the Spirit. Hearing young people express their faith can bring clarity to our own. We hope this special worship service inspires you and deepens your relationship with Jesus.

Safe Dates – The Conversation Continues takes place during our next Group, Soup & Talk time at the Skaff home on January 28 from 5-7pm. Parents of teens, youth, and interested adults are invited to join us for soup & salad while we discuss:

- *God's desires for our relationships
- *Components and development of healthy relationship habits
- *Communication strategies
- *The dating bill of rights and have the opportunity to create your own



Our desire is for parents to feel equipped to continue this important conversation with their teens, setting Godly expectations in lieu of those offered by a world view. Please see Pastors or Tina with any questions. RSVP on the youth bulletin board or to tina@ffpc.org.

Upcoming Youth Group Activities:

Please RSVP on the youth bulletin board for most 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.

Fri-Sat Feb 2-3: Nub's Nob Ski Trip

Feb. 4: Youth Sunday wrap-up 12:15-1pm/youth room & Souper Bowl of Caring collection

Feb. 11: Youth Group 5-7pm

Feb. 18: Youth Group 5-7pm

Feb. 25: Youth Sunday worship 9 & 11am - (rehearsal Sat. 2/24 from 10am –noon)

March 4: Group, Soup & Talk 5-7pm locations TBD

March 11: Youth Group 5-7pm

March 18: Youth Group 5-7pm

March 25: Youth Group 5-7pm "Calm on Palm"

Youth Bible Study:

Two options offered 9:30-10:30am Sundays through March 18 (no classes 2/18 or 25)

1. Generation Change for youth 8-12 grade is led by Larry Zimbler and meets in the Sr. High Youth Room. In three 3 week courses, this Financial Peace University course for teens leads them to a better understanding of God, themselves and their money—and how it all works together. Explore BE Who God Created You to Be - DO More with Your Money - GO Write Your Story

Cost for each 3 lesson student workbook is \$10 each.

2. Bible Basics for 6-8 grade youth is led by Tina Ritchie and meets in the Jr. High Youth Room.

For Children Preschool – 5th Grade

Club 45: This fellowship and mission group for 4th & 5th graders and friends typically meets from 12:30-1:30 once a month in the Art Room. For more information, please see Cherri or Glenn Maxwell.

- February 11th Making lap blankets
- March 11th Frosting Cookies and St. Patrick's Cards for Pen Pal / Shut-Ins
- April 22nd Spring Flower Pots and Spring Cards for Pen Pal / Shut-Ins
- May 13th Mother's Day Project
- June 3rd Father's Day Project and Year-End Party

New Nursery & 9am Preschool News:

During the month of February, 9am worship preschoolers will be learning about David. David was chosen by God at an early age and secretly anointed king by Samuel. He entered Saul's household to serve Saul, and often soothed him with his harp. During this time, David found the courage through God to stand up to Goliath. The focus is on David's strength of faith and courage in

defeating the giant Goliath. Even though he was both young and small, in his heart he knew God was with him. Only after Saul's death was David recognized as the true king of Israel and Judah. He saved his people and built up a great empire.

The children will learn that they, too, are chosen by God to do good things for this world, with the objective to begin to understand that what is on the outside is not as important as what is on the inside of a person.

Memory Verse:

I Samuel 16:7 But the Lord said to Samuel, "God doesn't look at things like humans do. Humans see only the outward appearance, but the Lord sees into the heart."

3 EASY Ways You Can Help Make A Difference

- DID YOU KNOW...
 The children can leave their offering in the offering plate after the "time with children," before they leave for JAM. Please see one of the Pastors or Tina Ritchie with questions.
- 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!
- Bottle Drive: You may drop off your returnable bottles to the receptacle in the youth room on an ongoing basis.



JAM - "Jesus And Me"

During 11:00am worship

The GOODNESS rotation runs February 4, 11, & 18 and begins with Banana JAM where children will be challenged with a food drive through February, which has been approved by Session. They will create promotion materials and collection boxes, and decide where the food will be donated. Throughout the rotation the children will learn that God has promised God's goodness to us. This means that whatever happens in our lives, however wonderful or bad it may seem. God intends good things to come from our experiences. When you go through sad or difficult times, it is important to remember and lean on God's truth – God loves us, forgives us, and helps us always. We are also called to do good and extend this goodness to others. While this can be challenging, it is also rewarding. Our God is good, all the time, and in doing good we can become more like Christ, sharing his love and compassion in our world.

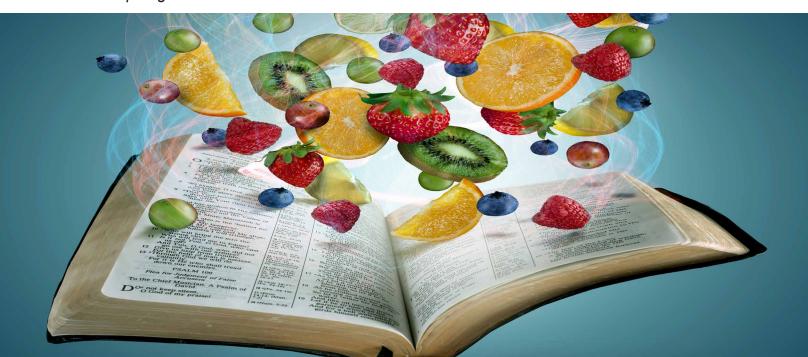


Goodness Memory Verse:

Psalm 103:8 "The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love."

The GENTLENESS rotation runs March 4-25 and begins with a Blueberry JAM session doing group activities centered around being gentle. Throughout the rotation the children will learn that because we believe in Jesus and what he teaches us, we have the ability to be gentle. When we think about being gentle, it is important to think about the way we talk and act toward one another. Sometimes we can be having a good day and then when someone speaks to us harshly, it can be very upsetting. We upset or hurt others when we use harsh words or actions. As we come to know Jesus more and more, we change and Gentleness becomes part of who we are. It is not always easy but Jesus' love and teachings give us the power to be gentle, even during the times when we are feeling let down by others.

Gentleness Memory Verse: Proverbs 15:1 "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."



ADMINISTRATION

This year's initial offering is \$26.94 per person. The initial offering covers the "per capita" for each individual member on our church membership rolls. At the General Assembly level, per capita supports our governance system, publications and leadership development, our ecumenical connections that make us part of the universal church around the globe, and supports mission projects supported by our entire denomination, including missionaries. At the Synod and Presbytery level, per capital supports coordinated mission among the mid councils, the administrative functions of the mid councils, and meeting expenses. This year our church will send over \$13,000 total to the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly:

Please consider giving to this part of our church's budget. Use theinitial Offering envelope in your Giving Envelope box.

End-of-year giving statements have been mailed. If you have not received your statement or have a comment or concern, please call Kelly at the church office.

WELCOME 2018 OFFICERS/ELDERS/DEACONS

2018 Corporate Officers

PresidentGreg DeanSecretary/Clerkof SessionJanet StorkTreasurerDeb Bard

2018 Session

Administration

Greg Dean, Chair '18

Jon Wenzel '19

Craig Williams '20

Christian Education

Larry Zimbler, Chair '18

Deb Bard '19

Communications

Mike Hussar, Chair '19

PJ Collier '20

Congregational Life

Roy Fetzer, Chair '18

Jim Savage, Chair '19

Mission & Stewardship

Ken Wensel, Chair '18

Polly Sheppard '20

New Member Outreach

Chris Anderson, Chair '19

Jennifer Wenzel '20

Worship

Ellen Horton, Chair '18

Roger Terrill '20

2018 Executive Board of

Deacons

Moderator
Vice Moderator
Treasurer
Secretary
Coordinator of
Supervision
Jerry Hope
Pam Coffin
Jack Allen
Maureen Utt
Linda Miller

2018 Deacons

Jack Allen '18

Julie Grams '18

Jerry Hope '18

Linda Miller '18

Lin Savage '18

Rick Bard '19

Pam Coffin '19

Sue Lantz '19

Carey Muntin '19

Marsha Schwarz '19

Pat Gould '20

Chas Kopplin '20

Becky Lawrence '20

Maureen Utt '20

Debbie Vanderlip '20

Getting to know our new organist and accompanist, Hikari Nakamura.

Hikari was born and raised as a small child here the U.S. and then returned to Japan with her parents for elementary school. When she was 12 years old, she and her parents moved back to the States, so she could further her music training and attended school at the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan. She went on to get her Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance at Lynn University, Conservatory of Music, in Boca Raton, Florida. Hikari is currently pursuing her Master of Music in Piano Performance, Chamber Music, and Accompaniment, at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theater and Dance in Ann Arbor.



Hikari heard about our position from another student at the U of M. We were impressed by her skills in accompaniment and the way she took direction from Bruce for choir anthems. She enjoys playing with and accompanying groups of musicians in a variety of styles of music. She looks forward to playing with musicians and soloists in our congregation who often lead our special music. Hikari is expanding and growing in new areas in both organ and church music, and working here will give her a chance to do both. We hope that you'll get a chance to know Hikari and enjoy the additions she'll bring to worship each week through her music choices, Preludes, Postludes, and Offertory selections.

WORSHIP

SUNDAY, February 4th, 2018, 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Sermon: Marriage: Lion-Hearted and Lamb like, the Christian Husband

Scripture: Ephesians 5:21-33

9:00am & 11am Worship & Communion

Layreader: Jeff Collier

Ushers: 9am Dennis & Jo Beardslee

11am Roger & Karen terrill Team #4
Communion: 9am Mike Hussar & Greg Dean

11am Jim Savage, Roy Fetzer, Jen Wenzel, Jon Wenzel, Deb Bard, Sarah Martin-Fanone, P.J. Collier, Rick Bard

Sound Tech: Mark Grams **Coffee Hour:** Violet Team

Counters: Martha Smith & Lin Savage

Banker: TBD

9am Nursery/Preeschool: Sarah Kasprzak **JAM:** Sherry Rourke, Deb Bard & Janet Stork

SUNDAY, February 11th, 2018, Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday

Sermon: Singleness and the Christian Virtue of Hospitality

Scripture 1 Peter 4:7-11 9:00am & 11:00am Worship Layreader: Jeff Collier

Ushers: 9am Michael & Debbie Vanderlip 11am Jeff & PJ Collier, Team #5

Acolytes: Mason Skaff & Matthew Maxwell

Sound Tech: Ina Golden Coffee Hour: Red Team

Counters: Bob Brownlee & Dennis Beardslee

Banker: Debera Bard

9am Nursery/Preeschool: Sarah Kasprzak **JAM:** Sherry Rourke, Deb Bard & Janet Stork

WEDNESDAY, February 14th, 2018 Ash Wednesday

Semon: Return to the Lord Your God

Scripture: Joel 2:12-13

7:30pm Service & Communion

SUNDAY, February 18st, 2018, 1st Sunday in Lent

Sermon: The Hands of the Potter Scripture: Jeremiah 18:1-6 9:00am & 11:00am Worship Lavreader: Jeff Collier

Ushers: 9am Jack Allen & Greg Dean 11am Rick Motta, Team #6

Acolytes: Annabeth Carnes & Emily Hollopeter

Sound Tech: Jay Kirkey **Coffee Hour:** Orange Team

Counters: Jon O'Connell & Sara Wrage

Banker: Amy Probyn

9am Nursery/Preeschool: Sarah Kasprzak **JAM:** Sherry Rourke, Deb Bard & Janet Stork

SUNDAY, February 25th, 2017, Youth Sunday 9:00am & 11:00am Worship

Layreader: Youth

Ushers: 9am Jim Lindsay & Mark Jacobson 11am Bob & Nessie Brownlee, Team #1

Acolytes: Chloe Muntin & Mason Davis

Sound Tech: Doug Watters Coffee Hour: Yellow Team

Counters: Shirley Israel & Ken Wensel

Banker: Jonathan Wensel

9am Nursery/Preeschool: Sarah Kasprzak **JAM:** Sherry Rourke, Deb Bard & Janet Stork



Who said Communion just happens on Sunday mornings? The next date is Monday, March 5th at 1:00pm in the Sanctuary. Join us for 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.



In March, our church will be starting a **Shepherd Program** so that twice a year everyone in the church will be contacted in a spirit of caring and connection by someone in the church. Each Shepherd will have 8-9 people to contact by phone. Because we care about everyone in our church and want you all involved, we would like to know that the phone numbers you've given the church or are in the directory are correct. If yours is not, please contact Kelly in the office with the correct number.

LET'S CELEBRATE!



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30pm-8:00pm Mission & Stewardship Meeting, CR 7:00pm-8:00pm Den 2, FH 7:00pm-8:00pm Den 3, FH	2 OFFICE CLOSED Nubs Nob Ski trip 6:30pm - 7:30pm Communications Committee Meeting	3 OFFICE CLOSED Nubs Nob Ski Trip 8:00am - 10:00am Men's Covenant Group
Communion Sunday Souper Bowl of Caring 9:00am Worship Service 9:30am-10:30am Youth Bible Study, YR 11:00am Worship Service 12:30pm-1:30pm Blood Pressure Check, FH 1:00pm Alzheimer's & Dementia Class, FH	5 1:00pm – 2:00pm Knitting Group YR 4:30pm – 5:30pm Tiger Den 6, FH 6:30pm-8:30pm Women's Covenant Group, CR 7:00pm – 8:00pm Den 4, YR 7:00pm – 9:00pm Boy Scouts, FH	6 11:00am – 12:15pm Bible Study, CR 7:00pm - 8:45pm New Member & Outreach Committee Meeting, YR 6:30pm - 8:00pm Congregational Life Committee Meeting, CR	7 8:00am-12:00pm Men's Work Day 10:00am - 12:00pm Women's Covenant Group, FH 6:00pm - 8:00pm The Legacy Journey, CR 6:00pm-7:30pm Youth Choir, Sanctuary 6:30pm - 7:30pm Bell Choir, CHR 7:45pm - 9:30pm Chancel Choir, Sanctuary	8 7:00pm-8:30pm Read & Feed, CR 7:00pm-8:00pm Den 2, FH 7:00pm-8:00pm Den 3, FH	9 OFFICE CLOSED	10 OFFICE CLOSED Pinewood Derby, FH 8:30am Shelter of Flint
11 Scout Sunday & Pancake Breakfast 9:00am Worship Service 9:30am-10:30am Youth Bible Study, VR 10:00am 10:45am Adult Bible Study, CR 11:00am Worship Service 1230pm - 1:30pm Club 45 5:00pm-7:00pm Youth Group	12 10:00am - 11:00am Prayer Ministry Team, Sanctuary 1:00pm - 2:00pm Knitting Group YR 6:30pm-8:30pm Women's Covenant Group 6:30pm - 8:30pm Admin Committee Meeting, CR 7:00pm - 8:00pm Cub Scouts, YR	13 11:00am – 12:15pm Bible Study CR 7:00pm Book Binders	14 8:00 AM-12:00 PM Men's Work Day 10:00am - 11:00am Card Class , FH 10:00am - 12:00pm Women's Covenant Group, FH 4:00pm-4:30pm All Staff Meeting, CR 4:30pm - 6:00pm Worship Committee Meeting, CR 5:45pm-6:45pm Youth Choir, Sanctuary 7:30pm-8:30pm Ash Wednesday Service	15 7:00pm-8:00pm Den 2, FHI 7:00pm-8:00pm Den 3, FH	16 OFFICE CLOSED	17 OFFICE CLOSED Memorial Service & Luncheon
18 9:00am Worship Service 9:30am-10:30am Youth Bible Study, YR 10:00am 10:45am Adult Bible Study, CR 11:00am Worship Service 5:00pm-7:00pm Youth Group 6:00pm-8:00pm Men's Covenant Offsite	19 1:00pm-2:00pm Knitting Group YR 4:30pm – 5:30pm Den 6 FH 6:30pm-8:30pm Administration Committee Meeting, CR 6:30pm-8:30pm Women's Covenant Group 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 4 YR 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Boy Scouts FH	20 11:00am – 12:15pm Bible Study CR 7:00pm-9:00pm Pack Meeting, FH	21 8:00am-12:00pm Men's Work Day 10:00am - 12:00pm Women's Covenant Group, FH 5:30pm-7:30pm Lenten Simple Meals, FH 6:00pm-7:30pm Youth Choir, Sanctuary 6:30pm - 7:30pm Bell Choir, CHR 7:45pm - 9:30pm Chancel Choir, Sanctuary	22 7:00pm–8:00pm Den 2, FH 7:00pm–8:00pm Den 3, FH	23 OFFICE CLOSED	24 OFFICE CLOSED Youth Sunday Rehearsal, Sanctuary
25 Youth Sunday Worship 9:00am Worship Service 9:30am-10:30am Youth Bible Study, YR 10:00am 10:45am Adult Bible Study, CR 11:00am Worship Service 12:30pm Dance Rehearsal, Sanctuary	26 10:00am - 11:00am Prayer Ministry Team, Sanctuary 1:00pm-2:00pm Knitting Group YR 6:30pm-8:30pm Women's Covenant Group, CR 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 4 YR	27 11:00am – 12:15pm Bible Study CR 6:30pm-8:30pm Session Meeting, CR 6:00pm-8:00pm Deacons Meeting, YR	28 8:00am-12:00pm Men's Work Day 10:00am - 12:00pm Women's Covenant Group, FH 5:30pm-7:30pm Lenten Simple Meals, FH 6:00pm-7:30pm Youth Choir, Sanctuary 6:30pm - 7:30pm Bell Choir, CHR 7:45pm - 9:30pm Chancel Choir, Sanctuary			

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!!



<u>Online Giving:</u> An easy and convienent 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.



<u>Church Giving:</u> 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.



<u>Automatic Bank Pay:</u> 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!