

Fenton First Presbyterian Church

Living with Christ, serving the world

Newsletter April 2018

*For behold, the winter is past;
the rain is over and gone. The
flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.*



Pastor's Article

The Art of Neighboring

When I was little, our yard was surrounded by rusting chain link fencing that was encumbered with what we called ice plant (referring to several different climbing succulents, used in my home town as an embankment retainer). The ice plant was so thick a short 4 year old could not see through into the neighbor's yard. My neighbor, Mr. Shepley, spent a lot of time at flea markets and swap meets. Once in a while he would find something that he thought us kids would like and he'd throw it over the fence and we would wake up to something wonderful to play with. There were no requests made (unless my parents had conversations with Mr. Shepley without me) and sometimes it was a little hit and miss. My first bicycle (without training wheels) was found 'tossed' over the fence and, once a five foot tall teddy bear appeared, but then it rained and, after a parental sniff test, the bear quickly disappeared.



Mr. Shepley was our neighbor. We shared a lot of things beyond a fence. As a kid the most important thing that Mr. Shepley did for us was notice us. Kids can be pretty invisible to adults who wish to make them so and Mr. Shepley was a neighbor to us kids by noticing us. His attention was his expression of love for us.

One day, we had a visitor at grandma's house. It was the neighborhood boy who I played with as a kid, and whom I didn't remember being a particularly pleasant individual. He came to visit my grandmother, just to say hello. The house that he had grown up in had been sold while he was away at college and his parents had moved to another state. He was saying goodbye to his old neighborhood and to his old neighbors.

Somehow this person was transformed from a snotty little kid who threw stones to a young man who spent an hour chatting with an old lady about how the neighborhood had changed and what life meant for him now and what life meant for her. He told Grandma about what she had meant to him, and how she had encouraged him and been a good influence. This young man was my grandmother's neighbor, and more importantly, my grandmother was this young man's neighbor.

I hope you notice that I am placing more value on the word 'neighbor' than simple proximity. Jesus used the word neighbor to mean something more fluid and much more sacred. The title of this article contains one of those 'non-words' that we love to create, however it perfectly describes what Christians should be doing when they live, work and play close to others. All of us live next to others, how many of us intentionally try to be a neighbor to those we live next too? Remember the story of the Good Samaritan? Which one became a good neighbor to the man who fell in among the robbers? The one who intentionally acted in mercy and compassion.

If we are intentional in our positive action toward our neighbors, wouldn't that be love? Loving our neighbors, it's pretty much 50% of the most important thing Jesus says we can do. The other 50% is loving God with all our heart, mind, strength and soul. Could it be that following Jesus might mean we notice our neighbors, and in doing so, we would be doing something that is so countercultural that it might shock those

around us? That is intentionally love others?

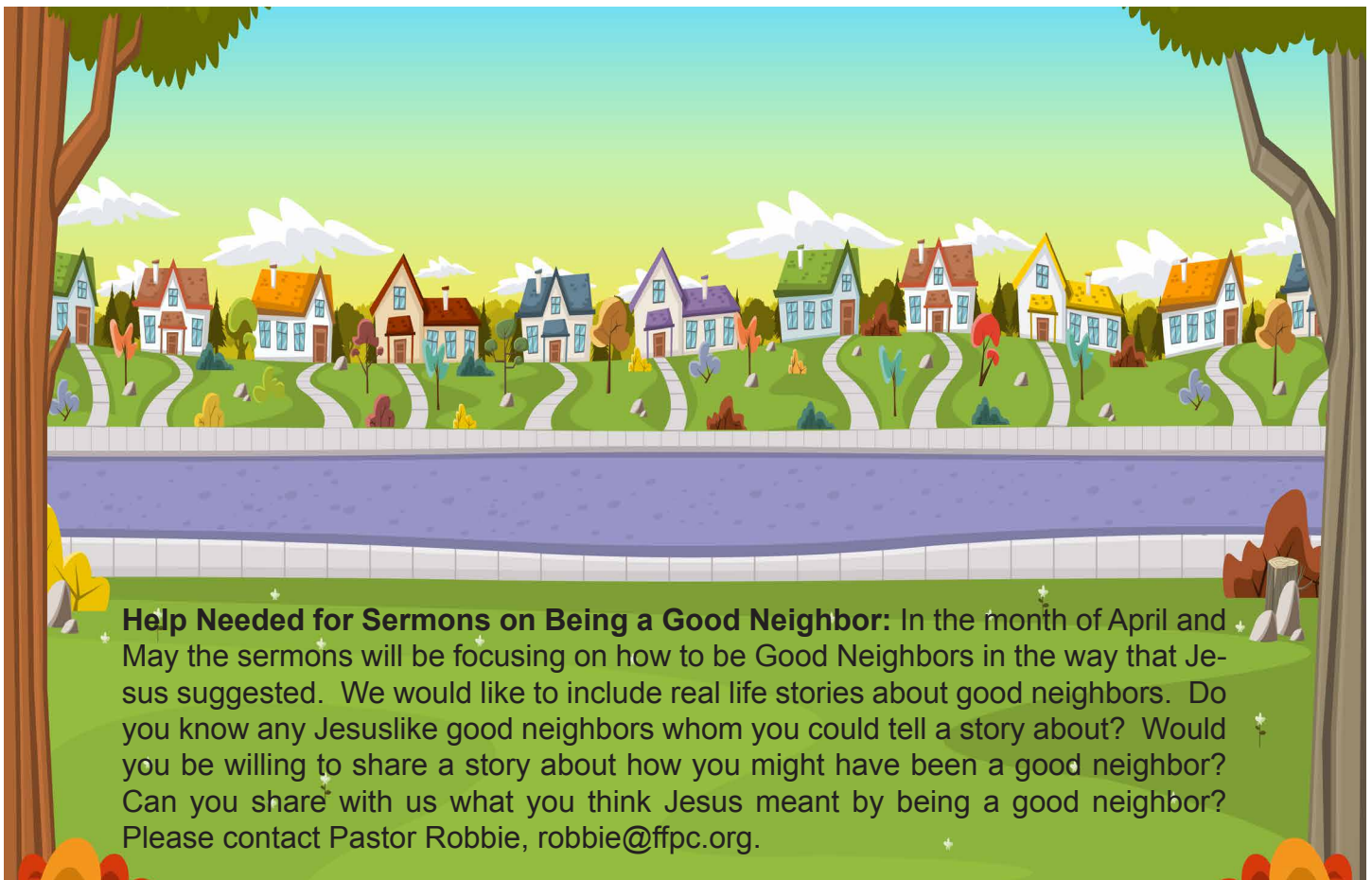
We all know that we live in a world that is actively trying to separate neighbors. We build bigger houses and smaller community centers. We build our garages in the front of our property and our porches so far to the rear of our houses we call them patios and decks. We live on streets that don't have parking for visitors, we don't answer our phones because of tele-marketers (another made up word!). We have filters, blacklists, and whitelists for our emails so that we don't become overwhelmed with advertisements and forwarded jokes. Even things that are aglow with the promise of connecting us with others, like social media and cell phones, can quickly become an obsession and a drain on our life.

What kind of Gospel statement could we, followers of Jesus, make if we intentionally kicked back against the goads of our anti-neighbor culture? What if we turned off so that we could go out? Do we notice our neighbors? The ones living next to us, the ones working next to us, the ones in front and behind us in the checkout lane? I believe that Jesus calls us to notice them as we are noticed by Jesus. We love our neighbors because Christ first loved us.

We experience the incredible result of God's redemptive love in Jesus Christ on Easter, so what's next? We are called to share this great love and we can do this by intentionally trying to love those around us, i.e. engaging in neighboring. So how do we do it? Why do we do it? What do we do when it gets hard? Does Jesus really mean that neighbor, or can I get away with just neighboring the people I like? We hope to challenge you by asking these questions and more in the next few months during our worship service.

8 Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. 9 The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." 10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. (Romans 13:8-10)

Pastor Robbie Carnes



FFPC Spotlight

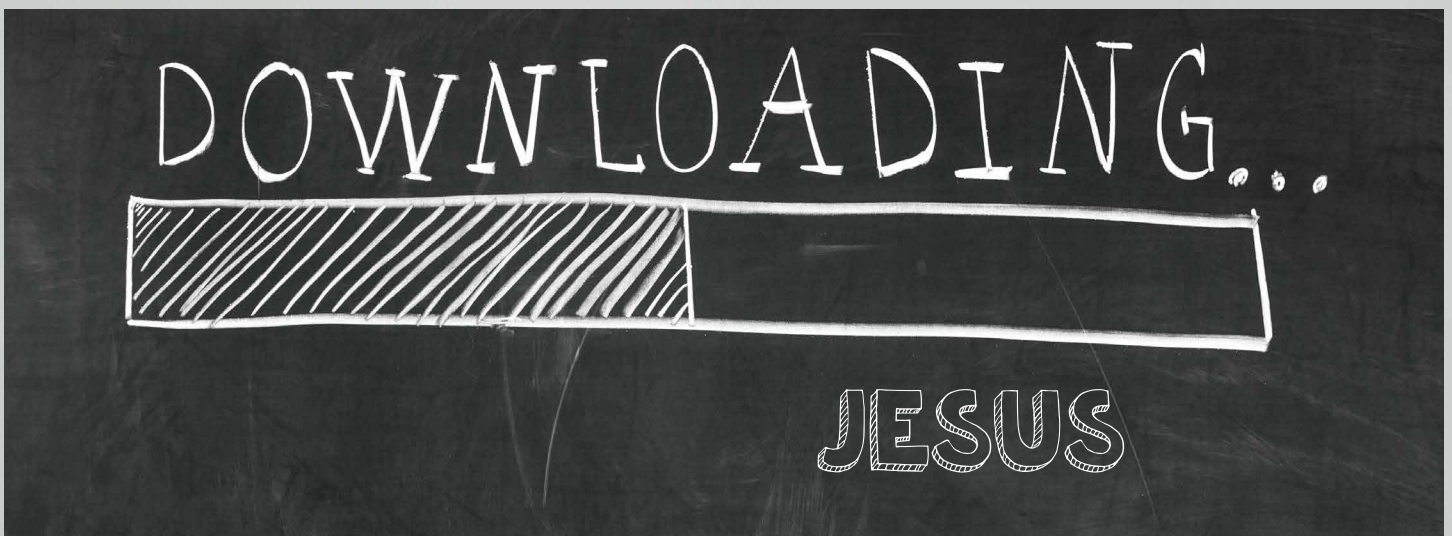
Congratulations to Waverly Ritchie for being chosen as a Massanetta Springs Enabler for the June middle school conferences, and to Lindsey Gibb for being selected as an alternate!!! Each year Massanetta Springs chooses 44 ministry-minded high school youth to serve and lead within the Middle School Conferences. This dynamic leadership program provides a place where youth can lead alongside adults who serve as mentors, facilitators, encouragers, older siblings, and faith friends.

Heralded as one of the strongest and most significant leadership tracks in the Church today, the Massanetta Springs Enabler Program changes the lives of younger youth who attend, empowers the faith of the older youth who serve, and creates for the Church a powerful witness to the work and witness of young people in the 21st century.



The Enablers are woven into the flow of every aspect of the conferences, unpacking the scripture in keynotes, organizing large group recreation activities, leading in worship, and building the conference community as they ARE the small group leaders. It is a great honor that these two young women were chosen out of hundreds of applicants. Please do congratulate Waverly and Lindsey when you see them!

Youth Musical “Downloading Jesus” - April 15th at the 11:00 service.



Written by Skye Hodgkin, one of our own teenage youth in the church. This is a high energy, fun story of a teenage girl discovering God with lots of singing and dancing. Please come support the youth of our church as they have all had a part in planning and developing this play.

Mission & Stewardship

"Together We Can Make A Difference!"



CHRISTMAS IN ACTION

Tri-County

Fenton • Linden

Tyrone Township • Argentine Township

A 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization Serving the Tri-County area

Christmas In Action: Christmas In Action (CIA) uses volunteer labor along with donated money and materials to perform free home repairs for low income or handicapped senior citizens, repairs that they cannot do or afford to have done. It is a great way for our church to reach out to the community and to serve God's family! Our congregation has been working with CIA for the past 10 years by doing a wide variety of maintenance tasks, e.g., re-doing a bathroom, replacing lower kitchen cabinets and flooring, repairing a living room floor, paneling room walls, repairing a deck, painting, cleaning, landscaping, etc. Each year CIA finds qualified homes to repair in Fenton, Fenton Township, Linden and Argentine. Our congregation usually picks one of them to work on together so that we can also enjoy each other's company. If you would like to join our group this year, please sign up

in fellowship hall. Breakfast and lunch are provided. Come for whatever time you can on Saturday, April 28; coffee and donuts are available at 8:00am. To all who sign up, we will be sending specific details about our chosen house location and tasks. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Black: 810-750-4189 or wblack2@yahoo.com.

Shelter of Flint Mission Opportunity Saturday, April 21, 2018. We will car pool 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, sorting, organizing and other tasks as needed. 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.



Save these new dates for our 2018 Read and Feed program!

Monday through Thursday mornings on July 30 - 31 and August 1 - 2, we will again be serving Fenton and Lake Fenton incoming 2nd and 3rd graders who have some challenges with reading. Help us "jump-start" their interest in reading before the school year begins! For four mornings, we provide activities that center on the reading and student skills needed to start the school year. You can assist with reading, music and drama, and craft and science projects, which are already planned.

Volunteer Sign-up Sheets will be in Fellowship Hall beginning in May. Where can you help make a difference for these young people?





FFPC MINISTRY SMALL GROUPS BIG IMPACT

Youth Ministry



Faith in Femininity

Faith in Femininity: We are gearing up for more feminine hygiene product drives in the area by reaching out to schools and other churches like St. Jude's Episcopal, Fenton United Methodist, and Linden Presbyterian. Currently we have little products on hand. To increase awareness of our mission in the community, we have distributed brochures to various local businesses. It is our hope that we can supply other places like the Flint YWCA and Restoration Place. If you would like to support this mission, monetary donations can be made through our church website www.ffpc.org.

or www.ffpc.org/faith-in-femininity, or send a check to First Presbyterian Church in Fenton marked "Faith in Femininity." Product donations can be given to the office, Lindsey or Madeline Gibb, or Waverly Ritchie. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Deacon's Ministry



Deacon's Easter Project Update

The Deacon's would like to thank all who participated and supported this project by purchasing groceries and/or a VGs gift certificate. Groceries and gift certificates were distributed to 25 families on March 30th. In addition, members of The Fenton United Methodist Church also provided Easter baskets for the 20 children and 16 teens who are part of the 25 families that we were helping.

Prayer Ministry

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!

Christian Education

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

Monday Evening Women's Covenant: April 2nd-May 7th Daniel Part II meets from 6:30-8:30pm in the Conference Room. Led by Pastor Lindsey, childcare is provided upon request.

Tuesday Bible Study: April 3rd-May 22nd The Letter to the Galatians is led by Pastor Lindsey in the Conference Room from 11am – 12:15pm

Wednesday Morning Women's Covenant: April 11th-May 30th Living With God's Courage from the Jesus Calling Bible Study Series. This group meets in Fellowship Hall from 10am - 12pm.



EASTER BASKET

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day.

– 2 TIMOTHY 1:12 NIV

Library Committee



The library committee hopes that everyone takes advantage of our church library, which supports the mission of the church, and individual member's faith. We want the library to be used as a teaching and learning tool for all.

Below are our sign-out procedures, which help us maintain a system of order and allows us to see how the congregation is utilizing the library.

The library sign-out sheet is on the table next to the bookshelves. Once you find a book or books that you would like to check out, fill out the sign-out sheet. Please put the title and author of the book, along with your name, phone number, email, and the date in which it was checked out.

The library cart located in the Narthex, has its own clipboard in which you can put the title and author of the book you would like to check out along with your name, phone number, email, and the date in which it was checked out.

The book return is a bin located in the library labeled "Book Return". Simply place your book in the book return and enter the date you return the book on the sign-out sheet. If you got your book from the library cart, please fill out the library cart sign-out sheet when returning your book.

With Spring-cleaning, you may come across a church library book that you have finished but have forgotten to return. Please bring your books back to let others enjoy. Also, if you have read a book from the church library please recommend it to others.

New books recently donated by the Deacons, in memory of those who passed are:

- God's Words of Life for Women – in memory of Josie Groves
- Strong and Weak- in memory of Jerry Peterson
- Boundaries in Marriage- in memory of Mildred McMellen
- Grace- More than we Deserve- Greater Than We Imagine – in memory of Phyllis Dewitt

If you have a book that you believe the church library could benefit from, there is a donation bin beside the book return. Before adding it to the collection, the Library Committee will review the book to ensure that it serves the purpose of the library.

We hope that everyone uses the library to its full potential!

With Blessings, Nikki Curtis - Church Librarian

Youth Group



Youth Sunday "RENEWED IN THE SPIRIT"

Eighteen middle and high school youth wrote and/or participated in Youth Sunday worship services on February 25. High school senior, Kara Kinser, delivered a sincere and relevant sermon on being "Renewed in the Spirit." The service included dressing the communion table at the start of worship, a modern dance interpretation of the scripture passage of Ephesians 4:17-5:8 to put off the old self and be clothed in the new self, a call to the cross to turn over our burdens during morning prayers, and concluded by singing Amazing Grace a cappella. The faith and talent of our young people are precious gifts to the life of our church, community, and world, and we are blessed to be led by them. Great job to our youth on a meaningful worship experience that called us to be renewed in Christ!

Thank you to Jacob Kinser and Pastor Robbie for guitar accompaniment, our organist, Hikari Nakamura, for her flexibility in preparing for this service, and to Jenny & Mark Gibb for assisting at the planning lock-in in January.

During the Ash Wednesday and Youth Sunday services, our congregation wrote down their sins, prayers, griefs or concerns on black construction paper. We attached them to the cross, laying our burdens at the foot of the cross, as reminders that we take those prayers to Christ instead of holding onto them.

The black squares were burned following worship.



Youth Group

April 22 Group, Soup & Talk

Topic: Love & Logic Communication Skills

Place: Fellowship Hall & Youth Room from 5-7pm

Parents have the opportunity to learn from a Love & Logic trainer on communication skills and strategies with teens to aid in development of capable kids.

Youth will have fun meeting in the Youth Room exploring different communication styles and the types of messages that we send through body language, facial expression, and verbal tone.

A simple meal will be provided. Please RSVP on the youth bulletin board or to tina@ffpc.org by April 18.

Parent/Teen Family News:

Last month we looked at seven Characteristics of Strong Healthy Families. Here are the nine Activity Areas for growth continued from the "Experiencing More with Less" curriculum:

1. **Family communication:** Strong families talk together.
2. **Family council:** Strong families plan together.
3. **Family work:** Strong families work together.
4. **Family recreation:** Strong families play together.
5. **Family meals:** Strong families dine together.
6. **Family events and celebrations:** Strong families develop rituals.
7. **Family values, religion, and philosophy of life:** Strong families share common values and goals.
8. **Family creativity:** Strong families encourage, practice and enjoy creative efforts.
9. **Family strengths:** Strong families identify and celebrate their strengths.

Upcoming Youth Group Activities:

April 8: Youth Group 5-7pm

April 15: Youth Group 5-7pm

April 22: Parent & Youth Group, Soup & Talk 5-7pm

Youth are also welcome to participate at the Shelter of Flint on Saturday, April 21st or Christmas in Action, Saturday, April 28th. Please see the sign up sheets in Fellowship Hall.

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.



Children's Corner

For Children Preschool – 5th Grade

Parents and Grandparents: Sign up for **The Values Project**, a FREE monthly values based newsletter for resources and activities to support Christian faith formation discussion and activities at home. Each month explores a different value—like honesty, loyalty, creativity, kindness, etc. Use this link to register: <http://blog.sparkhouse.org/category/the-values-project/>. Below is one of their recent articles.

Kindness Counts



Written by Jennifer Grant

If you had the power to choose, would you rather your child graduate from high school with a perfect GPA or, on commencement day, be named the kindest kid in school? (No cheating; you can't pick both.) If you're like me, you'd choose option two.

Maybe part of the reason for this is chemical. Research shows that when we perform a kind deed—or even see someone else do good—our brains' pleasure and reward centers light up, releasing endorphins that leave us bathed in a sense of well-being. While witnessing any kind deed does this, when the person performing it is our

child...well, I'd argue our brains release an extra strong shot of those feel-good chemicals. **We were truly made to be kind**, and the way our brain chemistry was created is just one confirmation of this.

Engaging in acts of kindness not only lowers blood pressure, but also lowers stress and anxiety levels. People who perform acts of kindness live longer, experience less depression, and are more aware of their life purpose and its value than those who don't. Also, **kindness is contagious**—when we act in a thoughtful, considerate, or merciful way, the person to whom we've shown this kindness goes on to treat others similarly.

As Amelia Earhart said, "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees." In a too-often violent and divisive world, **kindness truly matters**.

And kindness matters to God; it's mentioned over and over in the Scriptures. When we witness kindness, the Bible says, we're seeing God's Spirit at work. **God asks us to clothe ourselves in kindness** and to prove ourselves by demonstrating kindness. (Galatians 5:22, Colossians 3:12, 2 Corinthians 6:6)

And, happily, **kindness muscles can be trained**. Researchers say that the more we practice kindness, the more often we want to do good for others. Our ability to empathize with others grows and we become less self-involved and more interested in meeting other people's needs. To build our compassion muscles, we can start small. Smiling at a stranger, wishing someone well, or holding a door open for the person behind us affects positive change. Even expressing thanks when someone is kind to us strengthens those muscles.

So if we're created to be kind and if kindness can be learned, **how can we raise kind children?** The most famous of St. Francis of Assisi's quotes is, "Preach the Gospel at all times. When necessary, use words." As is so often the case in parenting, this holds true in raising kind children; the best way is through our actions...not our words. Let your kids see you volunteering to help a neighbor, feeding quarters into a stranger's expired parking meter, or leaving your phone tucked away in the check-out line so you can give the cashier and bagger the gift of your full attention.

These acts, however small, will be contagious, leaving those around you with a sense of God's own *heart*, and **modeling to your children what kindness truly looks like**.

Club 45:

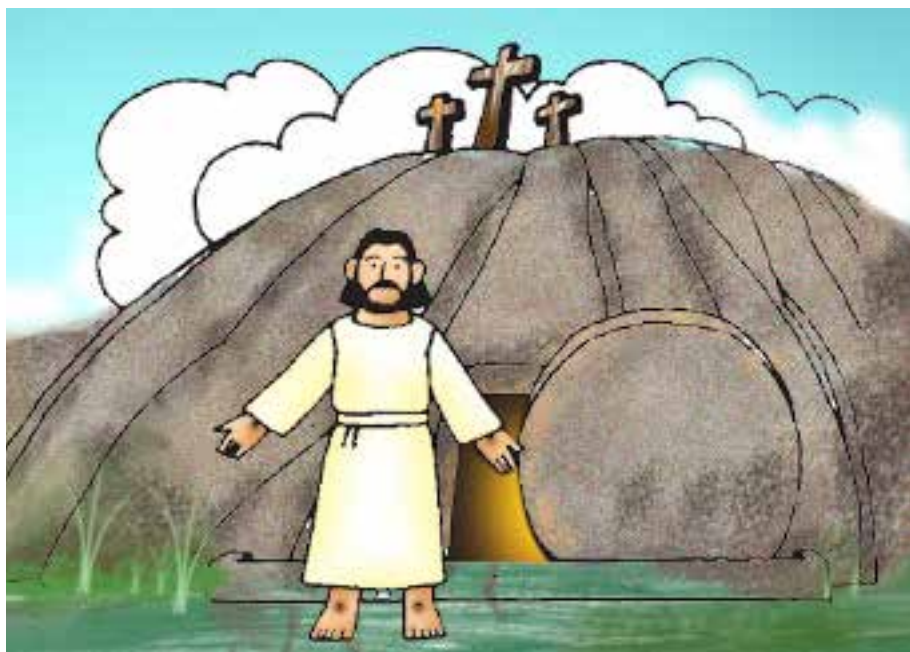
This fellowship and mission group for 4th & 5th graders and friends typically meets from 12:30-1:30 once a month in the Art Room. For more information, please see Cherri or Glenn Maxwell.

- 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



9am Preschool News:

April 8th-29th, 9am worship pre-schoolers will be learning about the Resurrection! Keeping in mind that all aspects of Easter are important, our focus is on the empty tomb and the new life beyond. Jesus' death was a very sad and mournful event, so why should we be happy? From the moment the women arrived and saw the empty tomb, to the times Jesus walked and talked with his disciples, they discovered the meaning of death had changed. Death was not an end anymore – it was a new beginning. The children will gain understanding of how new life comes from Jesus' death. The focus is on the glory of His resurrection. The children will explore what it means in their own lives that "He is risen! Alleluia!" This builds on the habit of gratitude and praise learned during last month's Psalms rotation.



Memory Verse: John 20:21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I send you."

Easter Word Scramble



taEesr egg



aybb hckic



tbeaks



rsyags fedil



rsEeat nuynb



ablm

JAM - “Jesus And Me”

During 11:00am worship

The FAITHFULNESS rotation is April 8-29 (no class on Easter Sunday, April 1 or 15th). The children will learn what it means to be faithful to God. The Bible tells us that God is faithful to us always; that means God is loyal in His promises and presence. God believes in us and will always be there. Once we understand this, we must learn how to be faithful to God. By knowing God’s word, obeying His rules, praying, worshiping Him and living our lives as Jesus asks us to, we are being faithful to God. This is not always easy, but in knowing what is right and working hard to do the right thing, we are being faithful to God.

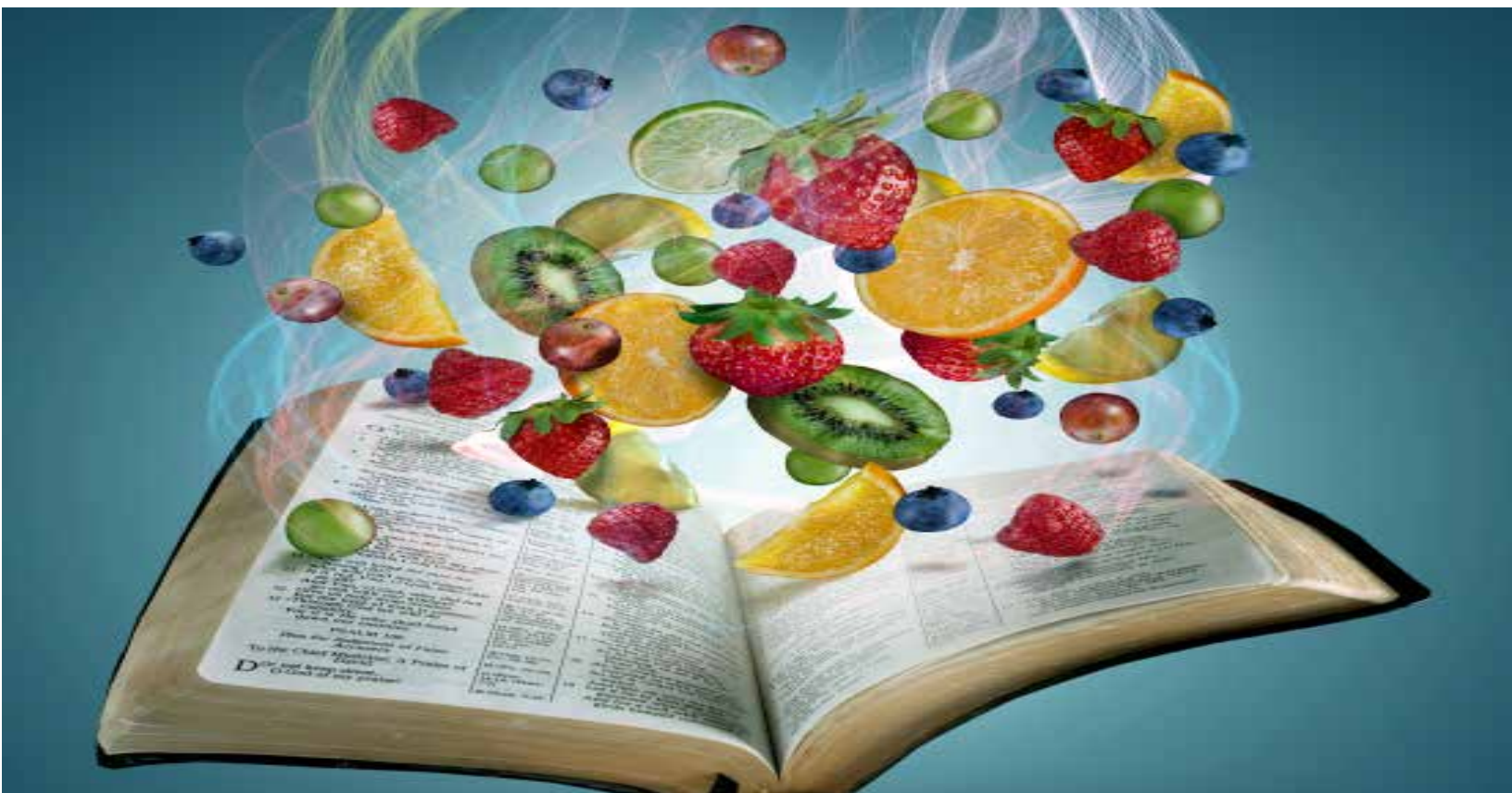


Faithfulness Memory Verse: : Hebrews 10:23 *“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.”*



The SELF-CONTROL rotation runs May 6, 13 & 20. This is our last and an important Fruit of the Spirit. Children will learn that self-control is being aware and in charge of your feelings, actions and thoughts. Self-control is choosing to act in right ways, even when it is not easy or something you really don’t want to do. It is showing kindness to someone who has just hurt your feelings. It is waiting for something patiently, even when you want it really bad, and accepting not having the thing you desire. Self-control is almost always very hard. Jesus teaches us that self-control is very important in making sure that we do the right thing, the first time.

Self-Control Memory Verse: Proverbs 21:23 *“He who guards his mouth and his tongue guards his soul from troubles.”*



Worship

SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2018, EASTER SUNDAY

Lessons: Acts 10:34-43 or Isa. 25:6-9; Ps. 118:1-2, 14-24;
1 Cor 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or
Mark 16:1-8

Easter Evening: Isa. 25:6-9; Ps. 114; 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Luke
24:13-49

Preaching Pastor: Robbie Carnes

Sermon: Baptism--Dying and Rising with Christ

Scripture: Romans 6:1-13

Layreader: Janet Stork

Sound Tech: Doug Watters

Ushers: 9a.m. Dennis & Jo Beardslee

11 a.m. Rick Motta , Team #6

Acolytes: Madeline Davis & Jenn Wenzel

Coffee Hour: Orange Team

Counters: Martha Smith & Sarah Martin-Fanone

Banker: TBD

MONDAY APRIL 2, OUTREACH COMMUNION

Join us at 1:00pm in the Sanctuary. Featuring a shorter Com-
munion service, filled with energetic hymn singing, a short-
ened 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.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 2018

Lessons: Acts 4:32-35; Ps. 133; John 1:1-2:2;
John 20:19-31

Preaching Pastor: Robbie Carnes

Sermon: The Art of Neighboring: Getting to know your
neighborhood

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37; Acts 17:26-27

Layreader: Janet Stork

Sound Tech: Mark Gibb

Ushers: 9 a.m. Debbie & Mike Vanderlip

11a.m. Bob & Nessie Brownlee, Team #1

Acolytes: Mason Davis & Matt Maxwell

Coffee Hour: Yellow Team

Counters: Lin Savage & Julie Jacobson

Banker: Debera Bard

JAM: Faithfulness

9 a.m. Nursery/Preschool: Crystal Siniarski

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2018, SPRING MUSICAL

Lessons: Acts 3:12-19; Ps. 4; 1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b--48

Preaching Pastor: Lindsey Carnes

Youth Musical: 'Downloading Jesus', Three friends
find their conversation goes from secular to sacred, and
through a mysterious computer malfunction find them-
selves encountering Jesus' life face to face. In learning
about how Jesus lived and died and was raised up, they
are able to live confidently in faith.

Layreader: Janet Stork

Sound Tech: Mark Grams

Ushers: 9 a.m. Jack Allen & Greg Dean

11 a.m. John & Linda Banks, Team #2

Acolytes: Annabeth Carnes & Chole Muntin

Coffee Hour: Green Team

Counters: Jon O'Connell & Ken Wensel

Banker: Janet Stork

JAM: Faithfulness

9 a.m. Nursery/Preschool: Crystal Siniarski

SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2018

Lessons: Acts 4:5-12; Ps. 23 1 John 3:16-24; John
10:11-18

Preaching Pastor: Lindsey Carnes

Sermon:The Art of Neighboring: Finding Time for Inten-
tional Friendships

Scripture: Luke 10:38-42

Layreader: Sarah Martin-Fanone

Sound Tech: Ina Golden

Ushers: 9a.m. Jim Lindsay & Mark Jacobson

11 a.m. Roy Fetzer, Team #3

Acolytes: Adlin & Bowen Moore

Coffee Hour: Blue Team

Counters: Shirley Israel & Dennis Beardslee

Banker: Janet Stork

JAM: Faithfulness

9 a.m. Nursery/Preschool: Crystal Siniarski

SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2018

Lessons: Acts 8:26-40; Ps. 22:25-31;
1 John 4: 7-21; John 15: 1-8

Preaching Paster: Lindsey Carnes

Sermon: The Art of Neighboring: Radical Hospitality

Scripture: Luke 7:37-50

Layreader: Youth

Sound Tech: Jay Kirkey

Usher: 9 a.m. Sherry Hunt & Ken Wensel

11 a.m. Roger & Karen Terrill, Team #4

Acolytes: Bella Skaff & Lauren Janowak

Coffee Hour: Violet Team

Counters: Martha Smith & Sara Wrage

Banker: Ken Wensel

JAM: Faithfulness

9 a.m. Nursery/Preschool: Crystal Siniarski

Announcements

Equal Exchange/Fair Trade – Did you know when you order coffee, teas, & chocolates you are MAKING A DIFFERENCE! For every pound of coffee that congregations purchase, Equal Exchange donates a portion back to our faith partners. Equal Exchange has given over \$116,871 for development and farming projects worldwide. Truly a good mission! It's time to order. Orders will be taken April 8th and 15th. Come see Debbie Bard in Fellowship Hall to place your order.

HELP NEEDED! Families who have lost a loved one really appreciate the meals we provide after the memorial service but, unfortunately, this service has been discontinued until we get a couple more volunteers to coordinate the meals. We still offer a cookie reception or the family may have a catered meal in Fellowship Hall with a licensed caterer. Debbie Bard and Linda Banks have a list of great volunteers and food donors but Debbie and Linda are not always available when a funeral happens. If you are interested in being a funeral luncheon coordinator or helping with a luncheon, please contact Debbie or Linda. Prayerfully consider this service and donation of your time. Thank You.

Solvitur ambulando. It's a Latin phrase that literally means, "It is solved by walking." Here's your chance to take a walk. April 27-29th, FFPC is planning a backpacking trip to Hoist Lakes (a little south-west of Hubbard Lake). This trip is designed for young people and novices, and equipment is available to be borrowed. Contact Pastor Robbie for more information (robbie@ffpc.org).

Book Binders will be meeting on April 10th at the home of Barb LaPointe, 16435 Cottage Nook, at 7:00 pm. The book for discussion is Our Souls at Night by Kent Haruf. The book for May is Fatal Fraternity by Linda Owen. Please call Barb at 810-845-6755 if you have any questions.

The Goodness Food Drive in February collected 125 non-perishable food items donated to Fenton Center of Hope. This collection was sponsored by our elementary children in the "JAM" Sunday school program. Thank you for helping the children share God's goodness with others.



Financials

Building Fund Report as of February 28, 2018

We would like to recognize and THANK our members for their faithful giving to the Building Fund over MANY YEARS!

Building Fund-Completing the Miracle (6/1/16-5/31/19)

Pledged \$351,941
 Received to date: \$242,540

Building Fund

Building Account Balance: \$20,362
 Mortgage Remaining: \$345,910

Treasurer Report February 2018

General Fund as of March 22, 2018

	Actual	YTD	Budgeted YTD
Income	\$27,936.28	\$64,539.56	\$340,843.00
Expenses	-26,678.95	54,608.54	\$340,843.00
(over)	\$1,257.33	(over) \$ 9,931.02	

February budgeted income & expense was: \$28,403.59

Birthday's

Pat Warren	Apr 1	Thelma P Buffmyer	Apr 21
Sam Fetzer	Apr 4	Barb Taylor	Apr 21
Jean Hermann	Apr 4	Ruth Grossmeyer	Apr 23
John Stork	Apr 6	Sarah S. Kasprzak	Apr 25
Deloris Hyde	Apr 8	Gabrielle Smith	Apr 26
Bob Brownlee	Apr 12	Lee A. Graham	Apr 28
Gretchen Coles	Apr 12	Sherry Hunt	Apr 28
Carol Sue Fulghum	Apr 15	Lynne Watters	Apr 28
Christian Emerson Coffin	Apr 16	Roy Fetzer	Apr 29
Meredith Weldon	Apr 18	Connie Morrison	Apr 29
Mark D Gibb	Apr 20	Evelyn D. Bertschy	Apr 30
Millie Roe	Apr 20	Jayce Erwin	Apr 30
Betty Jean Skinner	Apr 20	Ann Fetzer	Apr 30

Anniversaries

Tim & April Anderson	April 15
Donald & Michelle Hatch	April 20
Michael & Jeanne Cupp	April 22
Greg & Jan Dean	April 25
Scott & Cathy Hollopeter	April 29



APRIL CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter Sunday 9:00am Worship Service & Communion 11:00am Worship Service 12:30pm-1:30pm Blood Pressure Check, Fellowship Hall	2 1:00pm – 2:00pm Knitting Group Youth Room 1:00pm-2:00pm Outreach Communion, Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall 6:30pm-8:30pm Women's Covenant Group, Conference Room	3 11:00am-12:00pm Adult Bible Study, Conference Room 1:00pm-2:00pm 6:30pm-7:30pm Communications Committee Meeting, Jr. High Room 6:30pm-8:00pm Congregational Life Committee Meeting, Conference Room	4 8:00am–12:00pm Men's Work Day	5 6:30pm-8:00pm Mission & Stewardship Meeting, Conference Room	6 OFFICE CLOSED	7 OFFICE CLOSED 8:00am - 10:00am Men's Covenant Group
8 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am 10:45am Adult Bible Study, Conference Room 11:00am Worship Service 5:00pm-7:00pm Youth Group, Youth Room	9 10:00am - 11:00am Prayer Ministry Team, Sanctuary 1:00pm – 2:00pm Knitting Group Youth Room 6:30pm-8:30pm Women's Covenant Group, Conference Room 7:00pm – 8:00pm Den 4, Youth Room 7:00pm – 9:00pm Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall	10 11:00am-12:00pm Adult Bible Study, Conference Room 7:00pm Book Binders	11 8:00am–12:00pm Men's Work Day 10:00am - 12:00am Card Class , Fellowship Hall 11:00am-12:00pm Women's Covenant Group, Fellowship Hall 4:00pm-4:30pm Staff Meeting Conference Room 4:30pm - 6:00pm Worship Committee Meeting, Conference Room 6:00pm-7:30pm Youth Choir, Methodist Church	12 6:00pm-8:00pm Christian Education Meeting 6:00pm-8:00pm Read & Feed, Youth Room 7:00pm–8:00pm Cub Scouts, Fellowship Hall	13 OFFICE CLOSED Cub Scout Lock-in	14 OFFICE CLOSED Cub Scout Lock-in 10:00am-12:00pm Youth Musical Full Dress Rehearsal, Sanctuary
15 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am-10:45am Adult Bible Study, CR 11:00am Worship Service & Spring Musical 5:00pm-7:00pm Youth Group, Youth Room 6:00pm-8:00pm Men's Covenant Offsite	16 1:00pm-2:00pm Knitting Group, Youth Room 4:30pm – 5:30pm Den 6 Fellowship Hall 6:30pm-8:30pm Women's Covenant Group 6:30pm-8:30pm Administration Committee Meeting, Conference Room 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 4 Youth Room 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Boy Scouts Fellowship Hall	17 11:00am-12:00pm Adult Bible Study, Conference Room 6:30pm-8:30pm Session Meeting, Conference Room 7:00pm-9:00pm Pack 286 Meeting, Fellowship Hall	18 8:00 AM–12:00 PM Men's Work Day 11:00am-12:00pm Women's Covenant Group, Fellowship Hall 6:00pm-7:30pm Youth Choir, Drama Room 6:30pm – 7:30pm Bell Choir, CHR 7:45pm – 9:30pm Chancel Choir, Sanctuary	19 7:00pm–8:00pm Cub Scouts, Fellowship Hall	20 OFFICE CLOSED	21 OFFICE CLOSED 9:00am-2:00pm Bridal Shower, Fellowship Hall 9:30am-11:00am Yoga, Youth Room
22 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am 10:45am Adult Bible Study, Conference Room 11:00am Worship Service 12:30pm-1:30pm Club 45, Art Room 5:00pm-7:00pm Youth Group Soup & Talk, Youth Room & Fellowship Hall	23 10:00am - 11:00am Prayer Ministry Team, Sanctuary 1:00pm – 2:00pm Knitting Group, Youth Room 6:30pm-8:30pm Women's Covenant Group, Conference Room 7:00pm – 8:00pm Den 4, Youth Room 7:00pm – 9:00pm Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall	24 11:00am-12:00pm Adult Bible Study, Conference Room 6:45pm-8:00pm Deacon's Meeting, Conference Room	25 8:00am–12:00pm Men's Work Day 11:00am-12:00pm Women's Covenant Group, Fellowship Hall 4:00pm-4:30pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm-7:30pm Youth Choir, Drama Room 6:30pm – 7:30pm Bell Choir, CHR 7:45pm – 9:30pm Chancel Choir, Sanctuary	26 7:00pm–8:00pm Cub Scouts, Fellowship Hall	27 OFFICE CLOSED 6:00pm-10:00pm Eagle Scout Court of Honor	28 OFFICE CLOSED Memorial Service 8:00am-5:00pm Christmas in Action
29 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am 10:45am Adult Bible Study, Conference Room 11:00am Worship Service	30 1:00pm-2:00pm Knitting Group, Youth Room 6:30pm-8:30pm Women's Covenant Group, Conference Room 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Den 4, Youth Room 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall					

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



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503 S. Leroy
Fenton, MI 48430

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