

# *Fenton First Presbyterian Church*

*Living with Christ, Serving the World*

Newsletter August 2018



*Welcome Home You Belong Here*

Welcome Home-Back to Church Sunday  
Sunday, September 9th, 10am Special Service

# Pastor's Article

## Why People Leave Church

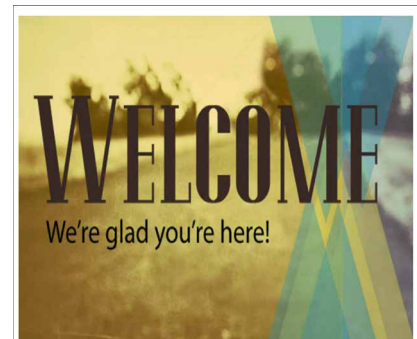
The American Church is in a general state of decline, with fewer than 20% regularly attending church. This suggests that 7.9 million people may be leaving churches annually. That's 150,000 each week! According to research conducted by LifeWay, the top two life-situations that prompt adults to stop attending church include being "too busy" (19%) and the burden of "family/ home responsibilities" (17%). The next most common category of reasons involves disenchantment with pastor/church; this accounts for 37% of the formerly churched.

### 6 Surprises About the De-Churched

- The de-churched are not mad at the Church. While many within the Church might view someone's departure as a sign that they're angry, that's not the case. Very few of the formerly churched expressed hostility toward the local body.
- Young adults return out of obedience to God. Almost half of those aged 18 to 35 cited this reason. Today's younger generation is sometimes viewed as rebellious or shunning God. While rebellion certainly applies to some, a large segment of young adults are returning for spiritual reasons.
- The de-churched don't feel awkward about coming back. Only 15% mentioned that they would feel awkward. So the Church shouldn't feel awkward about seeking out those who have left and asking them to return.
- Denominational preferences do not change among those who have left the Church. Fewer than 20% prefer to attend a church of a different denomination. Conversely, 64% of those who have left would prefer to attend a church of the same denomination. Clearly, denominational preference is not the impetus behind those who leave.
- The second visit is crucial among those returning to the church. Almost two-thirds of the de-churched maintained that they would like to remain anonymous until their second visit if they were to return. While our churches should remain amiable and open to all guests, perhaps we should focus on second and third-time guests as much as first-timers.
- Application of biblical teaching is important to those who return to the Church. Many within the de-churched camp affirmed that if they were to return, they'd seek a church that offered engaging and realistic dialogue about God and life. So the de-churched aren't concerned with ancillary items, but rather sound biblical teaching that applies to their lives. EXCERPTED from Outreach magazine, "Features," July/August 2007.

### The Power of Invitation

Perhaps one of the most underestimated reasons people return to the Church is that someone simply invited them back. Overall, 41% of the formerly churched said that they would return to the local church if a friend or acquaintance invited them. Younger adults are even more influenced by the power of the invitation. Approximately 60% of those ages 18–35 would consider attending or returning to church if someone they knew asked them to come back. A simple, yet powerful invitation is all it may take to prompt a homecoming.



## The Top Three Motivating Factors

While simply inviting a friend or letting him/her know they can personally make a difference are practical ways to bring people to the Church, two of the top three motivating factors for attending or returning to church are spiritual in nature. First, almost half of those who are considering attending Church said that they would do so because they feel it will bring them closer to God. Second, not only do people return to the Church because God is working in their hearts, but also because they sense a void in their lives. Over a third said that they would return to fill the emotional and spiritual gaps they've felt since leaving the Church the first time. The third motivating factor for those returning to Church is to be around those who hold similar values. Almost one-third said they'd want to attend a church in which people held the same moral standards as them.

## "I Want to Make a Difference"

Almost a third of the formerly churchd mentioned that if they were to return to church, they would want to be part of a local body where they could make a difference. By and large, people within the church feel more fulfilled in their lives when they sense that God is using them. And churches with high expectations of their members are actually more likely to draw people back into the fold. People want to serve and know that they are contributing to something significant. Making new members aware that the bar is set high for their contribution does not deter them, but rather motivates them to be a part of the local church.

## Welcome Back

Back to Church Sunday began in 2009 in response to a survey that indicated 82% of people said they would attend church if someone they knew invited them. But only 2% of church members were inviting people to come with them to their church. Participating churches saw their attendance increase 31% on Back to Church Sunday. And 84% of the churches said this outreach even motivated their members to invite people to come to church.



When you feel good about what your church is doing, you're reinvigorated and encouraged to invite people to church. I want to encourage you to share the welcome that someone extended to you when you first came to FFPC. Invite someone to "come and see" for themselves where God is active and alive.

## Come Back to Church With Us!

I often run into people who, upon finding out that I am a minister, inform me that they've been away from church for some time. Many aren't angry with the Church (though some are and often have good reasons for being so!), rather they've simply fallen out of practice. Many tell me that they'd really like to return but they're "afraid the roof will cave in."

It can be quite anxiety provoking to come back to church. Who knows what feelings this might stir up? The truth is that relief, not anxiety, is the central emotion that many people feel upon "coming home" to church.

But how does one “come home?” Do you need a formal invitation? Is there a need to announce one’s absence and return? Here are three initial steps to take when you’ve made the decision to attend church again.

**#1 Show Up:** Start by calling up an old friend who attends church regularly or someone you used to sit next to. Before I became a pastor, many people I knew would tell me that they were looking to attend, but were too afraid to walk in on their own. I would always offer the invitation to attend with me. So ask around! Find someone you’d like to go to church with and then make a “church date” and attend with them.

**#2 Reconciliation:** After a long absence or hurt feelings, it can be a beautiful thing to experience reconciliation, be heard, forgive and move forward. Church people are not perfect, but through Christ we can walk forward together and become the community that Jesus is calling us to be.

**#3 Re-Join:** Find ways to re-enter the life of the church, such as trying out a Bible study class, joining a Coffee Hour team, serving the community during a Mission event, or helping as a Greeter. If you have been away for more than 1-2 years, you may not be an “Active” Member anymore, even though you are always a “member of the church” in your heart. If you’re ready to step back into the life of the church, consider attending worship regularly, giving your tithe and offerings regularly, and express to the church leaders or pastors your desire to “re-join” or become “Active” again. Don’t be afraid of committing--putting your name down might just help you resist the temptation to drift away again after a while.

Are you wanting to return to the practice of your faith, or thinking about it? As human beings, we all tend to wander for various reasons. We have lots of questions and doubts too. Wherever you are on your journey, we invite you to come home. The risen Jesus invites you to return home.

The truth is that coming back to church isn’t as scary as it sounds. We would love to meet with you to welcome you back and help answer your questions. You are encouraged to email us to meet and talk to the pastors about returning to the practice of your faith.

Blessings, Pastors Lindsey and Robbie

*You* **BELONG** *Here!*

# Institute for Youth Ministry Grant Update

I sincerely hope that your summer season has been life giving, refreshing and full of the presence of God. As August approaches and vacations are winding down, our minds turn towards returning to school and watching for a change of weather.

At FFPC, summer is great time to reflect and gear up for the fall. After 2 years of discussion with our pastors, we have begun to look at the ways we engage in Youth and Young Adult Ministry, and how it has changed over the last few decades. Consider some of these challenges of doing ministry in a post-modern, post-Christian world: busyness of families and youth, non-traditional family structures, lower rates of Christian affiliation, plummeting church attendance, rate of cultural change and saturation of technology in our lives.

## **Questions to Ask Ourselves?**

What if young people who graduated high school, remained strong in their faith and church-life after graduation and college?

What if Youth Ministry was more than Youth Group?

What if churches built Youth Ministry not just for young people, but with young people?

What if Youth Ministry became a construction site: a place where young and old work together to survey, build and reflect the Kingdom of God in their local community?

## **1st Step: Apply to Become One of 50 “Communities of Engagement”**

Princeton Theological Seminary’s Institute for Youth Ministry is engaging Christian congregations in an innovative initiative to help design, test, and implement new models of youth ministry. FFPC’s Pastors and Staff applied to be one of the congregations to receive training and consultation.

## **2nd Step: We’ve Been Chosen as a “Community of Engagement”**

FFPC was chosen as one of 50 Congregations nationwide. FFPC was chosen to receive an interactive curriculum designed to kick-start the development process of new forms of youth ministry. This process helped us to gain a snapshot of what we’ve done and what we’re doing now in Youth and Young Adult Ministry. We also briefly began to imagine what we might do in the future to reach the next generation of youth.

## **3rd Step: Waiting to See if We’ve Been Chosen as a “Community of Practice”**

In August, we’ll hear if FFPC has been chosen for the next step of the process and if we’ll become one of 12 churches selected to continue digging deeper into theology, design-thinking and biblical foundations for innovation in Youth Ministry. Even if we’re not selected, we’ll still benefit from the learning that the other church’s will share with us!

Those interested in hearing more about what we’ve learned during our initial grant application tasks are welcome to attend a Home gathering listed below. Your hosts are people who participated in the final “Blueprint” task that is posted in the Narthex. Please RSVP in Fellowship Hall the date you are attending. One more gathering date will be determined soon.

Sunday, August 19 at 4pm Host: Bill & Nikki Black 1422 Blue Water Dr., Fenton

# Mission & Stewardship

## Mission Updates

**2018 Bastille Day Race** On Saturday, July 14, 2018, our church supported the Bastille Day Race in downtown Fenton. This year the race generated \$23,750 for the Genesee County Habitat for Humanity chapter and brought thousands of visitors into Fenton. The 15k race began at 7:45 am while the 5k run/walk began at 8:00 am. Both races were wrapping up by 10:00 am. Food and entertainment were available behind city hall where the race results were also posted.

Our church supplied 9 volunteers who assisted with traffic control at 6 neighborhood corners, plus 5 participants in the race. Thank you to the volunteers for assisting in this worthwhile cause. Everyone had a great time!



## 2018 Read and Feed Report

We are happy to report that our Read & Feed program was a great success for our seventh year! We registered 19 second and third grade readers from area elementary schools who had been identified as needing assistance with reading. We hoped to “jump-start” their fall schooling by providing them with four mornings of reading experiences as well as food for breakfast and lunch.

We used most of our church to have the students read to us or to trained dogs, to have us read to them, to play word games, to sing songs and play games using music, to create various arts and craft projects, and to have lots of fun! We used our new kitchen to serve them breakfast and lunch the days they were here. We sent food home for them and their siblings for the next several days. We also sent them home with books that were contributed by the congregation.

Parents were overwhelmingly positive about the program. All of the students were excited and enthused to participate. The reading specialists at the various elementary schools have indicated that we are making a positive difference!

We also want to thank the MANY volunteers from our church and St. Jude’s who made this outreach possible. Thank you to our congregation for their support of our mission budget that enables this type of outreach. We want to thank Jet’s Pizza and Uncle Ray’s Dairyland for contributing the food for our final lunch; It was a huge hit with the students!



# Upcoming Mission Events:

**Habitat for Humanity: October 13th, 2018**  
**Family Promise: September 10th-12th**

## Stewardship Update

### Building Fund Report

We would like to recognize and THANK our members for their faithful giving to the Building Fund over MANY YEARS! We hope to pay the mortgage down to less than \$250,000 by the end of this campaign 5/31/2019.

### Building Fund-Completing the Miracle (6/1/16-5/31/19) As of June 30, 2018

Pledged	\$351,941
Received to date:	\$290,016

<b>Building Fund</b>	
<b>Building Account Balance:</b>	\$18,319
<b>Mortgage Remaining:</b>	\$302,262



*"You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out." Deuteronomy 28:6*



# Women's Gatherings

**Breakfast, Bibles and Babes** - Please join the women of FFPC and their Friends for Fellowship and Conversation. Tuesday August 14th, 2018 from 9:00 am-10:30ish at Mega Coney Island, 3251 Owen Road. We will enjoy coffee, tea and breakfast while we visit and reflect on a Bible verse or two!



**Yard Yoga & Yolkes**-A Light Breakfast and Yoga September 22, 2018 – Saturday 9:00 – 11:00. Hosted by Julie Grams & Tina Ritchie at 1172 Crooked Lake Road.



*Priscilla* **SHIRER**  
LIVE  
**FT. WAYNE, IN**  
ALLEN COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL COLISEUM  
AUGUST 24-25, 2018  
worship with ANTHONY EVANS



Group will leave Friday, August 24th at 2:30pm and return on Saturday, August 25th at approximately 4:00pm.

# Men's Gatherings

**Men's Breakfast:** Men of FFPC are invited to Shirley's Cafe and Grill at 8am on the first Saturday of every month. Speak to Pastor Robbie to get on the email reminder list or just show up. Everyone is invited for this wonderful time of Christian fellowship.



# Christian Education

## Bible Study



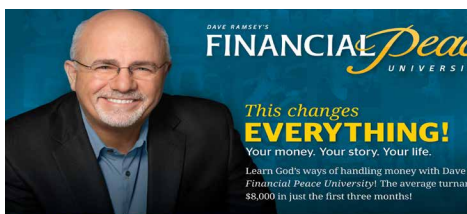
**Sunday Morning Educational Hour:** CASKET EMPTY September 16 – November 18 from 10-10:45am in Fellowship Hall. Have you ever thought that the Old Testament section of the Bible is a confusing collection of stories, poems and ancient documents? Have you ever thought that Scripture could be made more understandable by thinking of it as one redemptive story told by God to us? Professor Carol Kaminiski uses the acronym CASKET to describe the thematic thread throughout the Old Testament. Creation, Abraham, Sinai, Kings, Exile, and Temple describe the storyline making it easy to memorize, place key events and people in context and assist in fuller understanding of the Old Testament and New Testament alike. To further help with our learning an O.T. timeline will be available for purchase for \$10. Sign-ups will appear in the Fellowship Hall soon. Adults and youth are welcome to attend.

**Monday Evening Women's Covenant:** A new class will be starting in the fall; watch for more information coming soon.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** CASKET EMPTY September 18 – December 18 from 11am-12:15pm in the Conference Room – Led by Pastor Lindsey, this class will explore the Sunday morning Bible study book at a slower pace.

### Wednesday Women's Covenant

Verse Mapping Luke: Gathering the Goodness of God's Word by Kristy Cambron, September 19 – October 24 from 10am – noon in Fellowship Hall. Do you want to do more than just read Scripture? Do you want to research and apply what you learn to your life today? Verse mapping is a method of studying the historical context, transliteration, translation, connotation, and theological framework of a verse in the Bible. It's researching everything you can in a verse to learn more about who God is and how God wants to speak to you through the Word. Each session provides practical examples on how to take the first steps in verse mapping, learn how to explore the Bible like never before, and customize your Bible study time for a deeper and more authentic walk with God. Participant books are \$9 each – reserve your copy in Fellowship Hall by August 26.



**Financial Peace University** - Wednesdays 6:00pm-7:30pm. Do you use money? Do you need money? Does handling money God's way really work?

The average American has substantial consumer debt from mortgages to auto loans to credit cards, and would struggle to meet a \$1,000 emergency expense.

The average graduate of Financial Peace University pays down \$5,300 of debt within 90 days, saves \$2,700 over those same 90 days, and learns techniques to gain control over their money that can last forever and can be passed down to their children.

FFPC is offering the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University class beginning Wednesday, September 5 at 6PM in the Conference Room, facilitated by Elder Larry Zimble, MST, EA, and ELP (a Dave Ramsey Endorsed Local Provider). Childcare is available. The class lasts between 1½ and 2 hours once per week until November 7th (no class on 10/24). Typically attendees bond closely with each other and learn not only from Dave Ramsey but from each other.

This class is for young professionals, newlyweds, those in debt, those not in debt yet wishing to have their money work better for them, and anyone who uses money. If you don't need this class, I guarantee that you know someone that does. It is an investment in your/their future financial security and, if followed, is the smartest investment you can make.

Register online at <http://www.fpu.com/1066799>; there is a \$109 cost for materials when you sign up – typically \$149. Do this by August 19 to receive a \$10 rebate from FFPC on the first day of class.



**Love & Logic Workshop:** Wednesday nights, September 19th- October 24th from 6:05-7:30pm in the Youth Room. Child Care is available. Cost: \$35 per family



**None of us want to look like this parent!**

**Coached by trained facilitator Tina Ritchie, in a fun video and discussion based format, learn how to:**

1. Neutralize arguments
2. Delay consequences
3. Show empathy instead of sympathy – see excerpt below
4. Share control
5. Set limits with enforceable statements
6. Guide kids and other people in your life to own and solve their own problems

**Those who have already completed the course may re-take it for free!**

### **Sympathy versus Empathy**

Our hearts ache when we hear about children being hurt. Because we care, we hate the pain they have experienced and yearn to help them heal. This motivation is wonderful... as long as we also recognize that feeling sorry for kids isn't the same thing as loving them and empowering them to heal.

Sympathy is often demonstrated by "feeling sorry for" someone, and can lead us toward unintentionally sending the unstated message: "This is so horrible that you'll never be able to cope and find joy in your life." Sympathy can lead to continued despair and an expectation that someone else should "fix" our troubles, which then creates disconnection.

Empathy is "loving" someone by purposefully sending a very different unstated message: "I can't imagine how much this must hurt. I'm so sorry this happened to you. I'm here for you. I believe in you." Empathy creates connection while empowering the one who is hurting to find a way out of their situation.

# Youth Group Updates

## Montreat High School Youth Conference

This year's conference theme, Lift Every Voice was inspired by hymn #563 "Lift Every Voice and Sing", in our Presbyterian Hymnal. This hymn's text and history reflect the support and courage that are still necessary today for those of us who follow Jesus and love our neighbors.

The conference goal for this summer was to strive to be a place where authenticity, community, connection, and God's truth thrive. It sought to be an inclusive place where each voice can be heard and where each heart can be molded; where change is invited, challenged is expected, and where all are embraced.

Six youth and three adults experienced all of this and more during our week together. 2 of our youth were accepted into the Jeremiah Project which assisted with keynote and worship leadership. We had 6 days of worship and small groups, along with 5 days of keynote and recreation events that spoke to the day's themes. On our free day we ventured up Grey Beard mountain for hiking, and frolicked in the stream finding swimming holes and waterfalls. Friday afternoon we encouraged one another up Lookout Mountain's summit. Friday night worship consisted of communion and the 1000 participants joining in candlelight around Lake Susan. Below are discussion themes. We hope you enjoy the pictures, and you ask us about our trip!

**Theme 1:** God's Voice explored being free in God's love to love ourselves and free ourselves from being defined in a category, thus fully living into our gifts from God.

**Scripture references:** Luke 4:16-30 and Ezekiel 37

**Question of the day:** How might your life be different if you lived in God's freedom?

**Theme 2:** Difficult Voices explored our internal reactions that affirm self over others. Challenged to think about whether or not we are good listeners, we discussed the spiritual practices of empathy and discernment through "Ruah" - the life-giving and soul satisfying Spirit of God.

**Scripture references:** Luke 23:13-21 and Jeremiah 7:1-15

**Question of the day:** Where is "Ruah" missing in your life?

**Theme 3:** Our Voices challenged us to find what we are passionate about, and explored how we can nurture and express our voices. We learned that being in community is important because we find truth tellers and share accountability. Voice is less about volume and more about truth. Where there is truth, there is Gospel.

**Scripture references:** Numbers 27:1-5 and Matthew 15:21-28

**Question of the day:** What prompts you to get up and speak up?

**Theme 4:** Silenced Voices explored listening to the unheard voices that need to be lifted up. "Preach the gospel at all times; use words when necessary," and ask how we can best support another in lieu of telling them what they need. We were asked to think about the last time we showed up for another, and the last time another showed up for us.

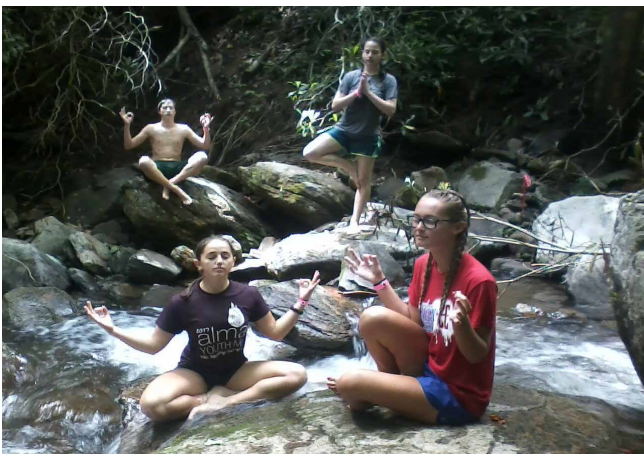
**Scripture references:** Proverbs 31:8-9 and Mark 2:1-12

**Thought of the day:** The best way to find yourself is in the service of others. – Ghandi

**Theme 5:** United Voices explored the philosophy of Ubuntu – "I am, because of you" – in which we value the success of the group over the individual. In Ubuntu we find our soul identity – our Imago Dei – affirming humanity when we acknowledge it in others. We each are an expression of God, co-creators with God when we act in God's image, and we are all family.

**Scripture references:** Psalm 150 and 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31

**Questions of the day:** Why is unity so difficult? What is your vision for a better tomorrow? What is your role?

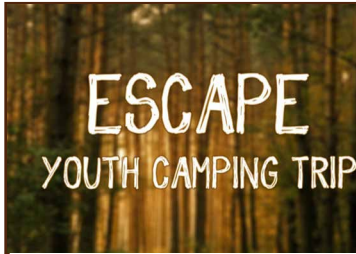


### Youth Group Activities:

6th – 12th graders and friends are welcome to join youth group events! To receive youth news email with current information, contact [tina@ffpc.org](mailto:tina@ffpc.org).

August 8: Mission Wednesday 9am – 4pm This is a great way to earn service hours! See Jenny Gibb for more information.

Watch for the fall schedule to be posted on the youth bulletin board and emailed soon! Adults interested in chaperoning, leading, or hanging with us at youth events should contact Tina Ritchie.



### Youth Camping Trip

Fri-Mon August 17-20

Youth Group Camping Trip to Heoft State Park near Rogers City - \$50 due by August 12. RSVP on the youth bulletin board or contact Tina. Scholarship Money is available. Join us for hiking, swimming, discussion and fellowship in one of Michigan's oldest and prettiest State Parks! A packing list and details will be emailed to those who sign up.

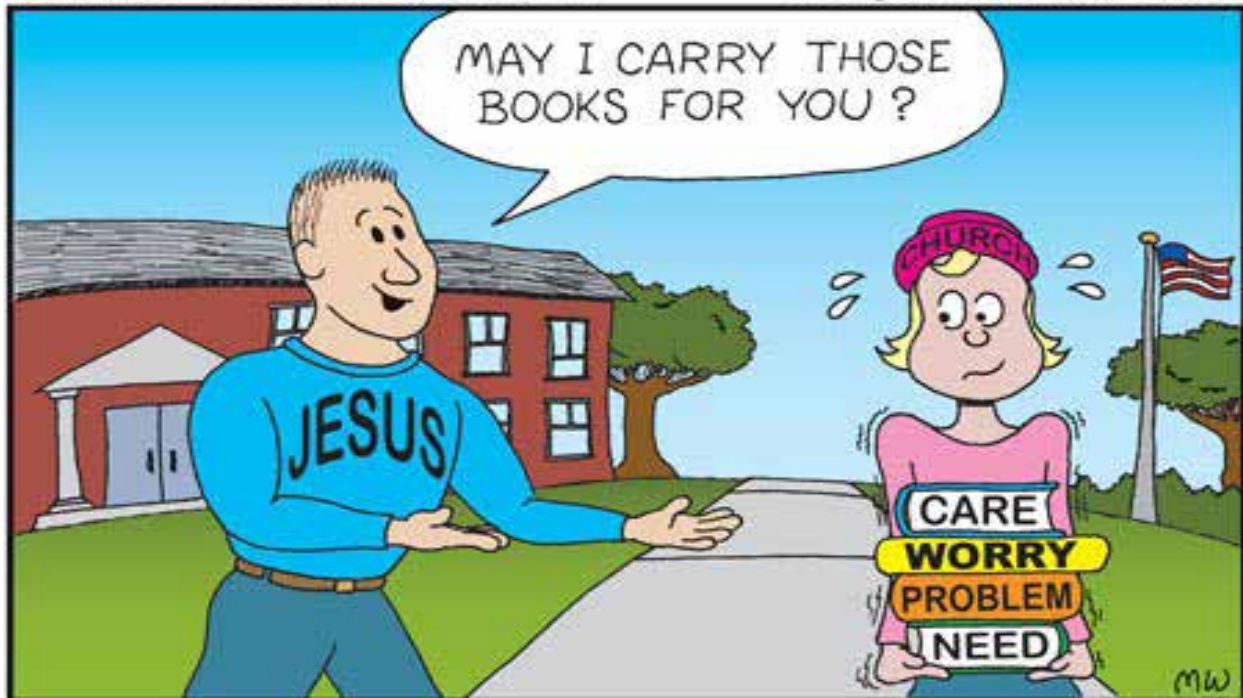


New this fall in youth group, we will be studying the Gospel Project curriculum.

Middle and High School Students will discover not only what they believe, but also why they believe it with lessons that center their lives on the gospel. This includes a "Family Connection" take home discussion sheet for each lesson. Classes will be held during most youth group meetings on Sunday evenings.

### CARRY YOUR BOOKS?

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



© 2007 Michael D. Waters  
www.joyfultoons.com

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

-1 PETER 5:7 KJV

# Children's Ministry

For Children Preschool – 5th Grade



**Children kindergarten – 5th grade are learning about The Lord's Prayer. August lesson highlights are below:**

**Aug 6:** Puppetry explores the phrase "Lead us not into temptation..." The Lord's Prayer can give us guidance as we face the temptations and difficult situations that are around us each day. Children will create brief skits about tempting situations.

**Aug 12:** Video Live! explores what happens when you pray. The class will create a video about a dialog between God and people praying the Lord's Prayer. The ones praying will have flashbacks about their behavior as reviewed by God.

**Aug 19:** Where in the World Is? explores how the Lord's Prayer has spread around the world. Hearing the prayer in different languages, children will have the opportunity to think about how different parts of the world need the reality of a particular phrase of this prayer.

**Aug 26:** Buck Denver video volume 10 part 2- The Messiah Has Come! explores the life and ministry of Jesus. The children will learn highlights of his healing and teaching ministry, and walk through Holy Week to the cross, learning how and WHY Jesus died for us and rose again to launch the Kingdom of God in the world and in us!

**Sept 2:** No elementary or preschool classes – Labor Day weekend



Preschoolers are learning about **Jesus' Faithful Followers**. They will learn about The Great Commission, Jesus' ascension, and how the Holy Spirit works in our lives by spreading the Gospel.

**Nursery help needed for the upcoming school year:** Adults and youth entering 6th grade and up are needed to assist Ms. Carol in the nursery on Sunday mornings from 9-10am and 10:45am – 12pm. Please see the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall to choose your date(s). Your help is greatly appreciated!

# Nurse's News



The Parish Nurse, Jackie Arrol, will be available for consultation every Wednesday from 12:00pm-2:00pm.

-If you or someone you know are in need of a walker, there is one available thanks to another generous donor. Please see the Parish Nurse, Jackie Arrol.

-Blood Pressure Checks are provided free of charge on the first Sunday of each month, in Fellowship Hall after Service.

-Flu shots will be available, Sunday September 23rd, after the 11:00am Service.

-Grief support is available through the church. Please contact Jackie Arrol for more information.

## **Head Up, Phone Down When Headed Back to School**

According to a study by SafeKids.org, 61 children are hit by cars every day in the United States, most often during the hours before and after school, and peaking in September.

The National Safety Council is focused on efforts to eliminate distracted walking – specifically walking while texting. According to a study by The Nielsen Company, kids age 13 to 17 send more than 3,400 texts a month. That's seven messages every hour they are awake.

Before your children head out, remind them of these year-round safety tips:

1. Never walk while texting or talking on the phone
2. If texting, move out of the way of others and stop on the sidewalk
3. Never cross the street while using an electronic device
4. Do not walk with headphones on
5. Be aware of the surroundings
6. Always walk on the sidewalk if one is available; if a child must walk on the street, he or she should face oncoming traffic
7. Look left, right, then left again before crossing the street
8. Cross only at crosswalks

Information provided by: <https://www.nsc.org/home-safety/safety-topics/distracted-walking/teens>



# Volunteering in the Community



This year alone, before her passing, Julie Jacobson knitted 27 baby blankets for the Stork's Nest - a 40-year-old partnership between Zeta Phi Beta and March of Dimes. Stork's Nest is a community-based, prenatal, health promotion program for low-income pregnant women in the Flint area. This is only one way in which our knitters bless others with their skills!

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

McFarlan Villages is looking for volunteers to help run our Senior Resource Fair on September 7th. This event will be open to the public to get information about senior resources in the community. Volunteers will be aiding in set up/tear down of the event and other various activities. Lunch will be provided. Contact Tabatha Dolan at 810-569-0852 if you are interested in signing up.

**When:** September 7th 7:30am-5:00pm

**Where:** 800 E. Court Street, Flint MI 48503



## VOLUNTEER your time, your talent, and your heart....

Volunteers are there to step in when a family member needs a break, and are there for the family and friends after their loved one has passed away. No matter what your skills, talents or motivation, we have the opportunity for you to help. What Does It Take To Be A Kindred Hospice Volunteer?

- The desire to give your time, talents and your heart in support of hospice patients and their families.
- Be at least 16 years old
- Complete comprehensive hospice volunteer training
- Annual TB testing
- Submit to and pass a criminal background screening
- Submit to and pass a drug screening

For more information please call 810-733-7250 or visit their website at [www.kindredathome.com](http://www.kindredathome.com)



## Road To Recovery® Give a ride to cancer treatment.

For those who cannot drive themselves or have no other means of getting to their treatment, our Road To Recovery® volunteers donate their spare time to give cancer patients a much-needed lift.

Why is this important?

Even the best treatment can't work if a patient can't get there. That's why a successful transportation assistance program can be a tremendous, potentially life-saving asset to your community.

Visit <https://www.cancer.org/involved/volunteer/road-to-recovery.html> for more information.

# Worship

The Old Testament stories that we have learned in Sunday School are filled with good lessons for young people about who God is and who we should be as God followers. But these stories weren't just written for children! There is much to learn about who God is and who we are as God followers that is relevant and meaningful to us adults. This Summer we have chosen some of these old children stories to revisit and find what we might learn anew with adult eyes.

## **SUNDAY, August 5th, Communion Sunday**

**Preaching:** Pastor Robbie Carnes

**Sermon:** Kid's Bible Stories for Adults: Daniel: Fiery Furnace

**Scripture:** Daniel 3:19-30

**Layreader:** Annabeth Carnes

**Ushers:** Team 6

**Communion Servers:** TBD

**Sound Tech:** Ina Golden

**Coffee Hour:** Red Team

**Counters:** Jon O'Connell & Dennis Beardslee

**Children's Sunday School:** Missy Wing & PJ Collier

**Preschool:** Gretchen Coles

**Nursery:**

## **MONDAY, August 6th, 2018, OUTREACH COMMUNION**

Join us at 1:00pm in the Sanctuary for a shorter Communion and Sunday service. This "barrier free" worship experience features large print bulletins, amplified speaking, and energetic hymn singing. Bread and juice/wine will be served in the pews. Helpers will be present to assist with walkers, wheelchairs, or to just lend a hand. Come for worship, stay for fellowship. For questions or rides, please call Dave Eshleman or the Church Office.

## **SUNDAY, August 12th, 2018**

**Preaching:** Pastor Lindsey Carnes

**Sermon:** Kid's Bible Stories for Adults: Daniel & the Lion's Den

**Scripture:** Daniel 6:10-28

**Layreader:** Jackie Arrol

**Ushers:** Team 1

**Acolytes:** Matthew Maxwell & Emily Hollopeter

**Sound Tech:** Jay Kirkey

**Coffee Hour:** Yellow Team

**Counters:** Shirley Israel & Sara Wrage

**Children's Sunday School:** Jenny Gibb & Ellen Horton

**Preschool:** Sarah Kasprzak

**Nursery:** Jenn Wenzel

## **SUNDAY, August 19th, 2018**

**Preaching:** Pastor Robbie Carnes

**Sermon:** Kid's Bible Stories for Adults: Elijah and Fire from Heaven

**Scripture:** Kings 18:20-40

**Layreader:** Youth

**Ushers:** Team 2

**Acolytes:** Annabeth Carnes & Madeline Davis

**Sound Tech:** Doug Watters

**Coffee Hour:** Green Team

**Counters:** Martha Smith & Ken Wensel

**Children's Sunday School:** TBD

**Preschool:** Deb Bard

**Nursery:**

## **SUNDAY, August 26th, 2018**

**Preaching:** Pastor Lindsey Carnes

**Sermon:** Kid's Bible Stories for Adults: Sampson

**Scripture:** Judges 16:1-22

**Layreader:** Jackie Arrol

**Ushers:** Team 3

**Acolytes:** Lindsey & Madeline Gibb

**Sound Tech:** Mark Gibbs

**Coffee Hour:** Blue Team

**Counters:** Lin Savage & Maureen Utt

**Children's Sunday School:** Janet Stork & Annabeth Carnes

**Preschool:** Deb Bard

**Nursery:** Ina Golden

## **August Church Mouse - Jan Foster**

**NEEDED:** We are currently recruiting an Usher Captain and individuals who would like to serve as an usher on one of our six teams. If you are interested please contact Jay Kirkey (810)813-1988.

# Announcements

**Alter Flowers:** August 26th is available for anyone who would like to dedicate flowers in memory or celebration of a person(s) or event. Please contact Heidi Roberts at roberts68@charter.net if you are interested in this date or for future available dates.

**DOWNTOWN READERS BOOK CLUB is beginning!** Killers Of The Flower Moon, David Grann, is our first selection. We are meeting in the youth room, Tuesday, August 28th at 11:00. Each month our book club will meet on the last Tuesday of the month at the same time, same location. Men and women are encouraged to join!

**Prayer Ministry Group** resumes in September and meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 10am each month. Anyone interested is invited to join the group. For more information, please see David Eshleman.

**The Gospel Project Preview:** Parents, teachers and interested adults are invited to join us Sunday, August 26 at 11:30 in the Youth Room to preview our new Jesus-centered Sunday School curriculum which begins September 16. If you are unsure OR confident of your Biblical knowledge, then this is the opportunity for you to SHARE, LEARN, AND GROW IN YOUR OWN FAITH! Children's classes will have on preschool group during 10am worship and during 11am worship three age groups consisting of preschool, younger kids (K-2nd), and older kids (3-5th).

We are looking for 3-4 adults per age group to take turns facilitating on Sunday mornings each quarter. Shepherds are also needed, and youth may fill those roles. Please keep in mind this time commitment is equivalent to signing up for a rotation in our previous rotation model curriculum. At this time we are seeking to fill teaching and shepherding positions from September 16 through December 9. A sign-up sheet will be available in Fellowship Hall.

There will also be opportunities to facilitate lessons for youth group during Sunday evening meetings. Please prayerfully consider how you might be a part of this new adventure in learning about and loving Jesus and one another.

**UPDATE TIME:** The office is looking for any changes in your address, phone numbers, and/or email addresses so the church can better be in touch. In this day when many landlines are disappearing, please let us know how to reach you by cell. Kelly is ready to take your changes by phone (810-629-7801) or email (office@ffpc.org). Thanks!

## Recent Directory Updates

Mark Jacobson  
1207 Marguerita St.  
Flushing, MI 48433

Larry McMellen  
PO Box 314  
North Benton OH, 44449

Roger & Sherry Zollars  
16300 Silver Parkway, Apt 325  
Fenton, MI 48430  
Sherry's Phone: 602-290-1515  
Roger's Phone: 810-516-3403

John & Linda Banks  
12250 Woodcrest  
Taylor, MI 48180



Dear Church Family,

On behalf of my family and myself I want to tell you what a wonderful blessing you all have been to us.

For all of you surrounding us at the memorial celebrating our Roger's life. All the work everyone put in setting things up. All who worked on and provided the wonderful meal for the luncheon decorating the tables with his favorite flowers. To the youth for your special tribute to your "Candy man". I know he was smiling; he loved you all very much.

Thank you for your cards, calls, visits and meals. God has taken care of us by placing you all in our lives.

Love, Karen

## Birthday's

Ken Wensel	Aug 1	Mark Grams	Aug 19
Judy Brown	Aug 2	Clark Casteel	Aug 22
Zachary Garske	Aug 3	Jennifer Wenzel	Aug 22
Craig Williams	Aug 3	Gary LaPointe	Aug 23
Jan Jacobs	Aug 5	Walt Hungerford	Aug 24
Jim Savage	Aug 7	Bonnie Griffith	Aug 25
Michael Skaff	Aug 7	Ralph Getz	Aug 26
Vera Thornton	Aug 9	Sherry Zollars	Aug 27
Peggy Blough	Aug 10	Steve Muntin	Aug 29
Holly Hodgkin	Aug 11	Polly Sheppard	Aug 29
Lin Savage	Aug 12	Laurie Thomas	Aug 30
Linda Miller	Aug 13	Royce Hyde	Aug 31
Billie Morris	Aug 14		



SPECIAL MUSIC

August 5 Robbie Carnes and Friends  
 August 12 Julie Hussar  
 August 19 Gretchen Coles  
 August 26 Cindy Crawford & Alex Joike  
 September 2 Patti Nelson

## Anniversaries

Jim & Gloria Lindsay	August 1	Ken & Karen Wensel	August 15
Rick & Jane Motta	August 2	Phyllis & Joe Cmejrek	August 16
Michael & Elaine Pelletier	August 4	Mark & Jenny Gibb	August 18
Morris & Peggy Fulcher	August 7	John & Cheryl Sharpe	August 18
Roy & Amy Fetzer	August 10	John & Alice Maletic	August 22
Greg & Jennifer MacLean	August 10	Jim & Lori Murray	August 22
John & Linda Banks	August 12	Richard & Georgiann Tunningley	August 24
Tom & Cindy Crawford	August 12	Guy & Sharon Cowing	August 27
Walt & Barbara Hungerford	August 12	John & Sara Wrage	August 29
Edwin & Marsha Schwarz	August 13		
Blair & Pat Warren	August 13		

# AUGUST CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <b>8:00am–12:00pm</b> Men's Work Day <b>9:00am–4:00pm</b> Office Open <b>9:00am–12:00pm</b> Read & Feed <b>12:00pm–2:00pm</b> Parish Nurse in Office	2	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 <b>8:00am–10:00am</b> Men's Breakfast OFFICE CLOSED
5 <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service Congregational Meeting Following Service	6 <b>1:00pm–2:00pm</b> Knitting Group Youth Room <b>1:00pm–2:00pm</b> Outreach Communion	7 <b>6:30pm–8:00pm</b> Congregational Life Meeting, FH	8 <b>8:00am–12:00pm</b> Men's Work Day <b>9:00am–4:00pm</b> Office Open <b>9:00am–4:00pm</b> Youth Mission Wednesday <b>12:00pm–2:00pm</b> Parish Nurse in Office <b>4:45pm–6:00pm</b> Worship Committe Meeting, CR <b>7:00pm–8:00pm</b> Pack 286 Commit- tee Meeting, YR	9 <b>10:00am–12:30pm</b> The Care Team, CR <b>7:00pm–9:00pm</b> Boy Scout Troop Meeting, FH	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11 OFFICE CLOSED  <b>9:30am–11:00am</b> Yoga, FH
12 <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service <b>11:30am–12:30pm</b> Shepherd Sharing, CR	13 <b>1:00pm–2:00pm</b> Knitting Group, YR <b>7:00pm–8:30pm</b> Boy Scouts, FH	14 <b>9:00am–11:00am</b> Breakfast, Bibles & Babes, Mega Co- ney Island, Fenton	15 <b>8:00am–12:00pm</b> Men's Work Day <b>9:00am–4:00pm</b> Office Open <b>12:00pm–2:00pm</b> Parish Nurse in Office	16	17 <b>Youth Camping Trip</b> OFFICE CLOSED	18 <b>Youth Camping Trip</b> OFFICE CLOSED
19 <b>Youth Camping Trip</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service <b>12:00pm–2:00pm</b> Staff Meeting, CR	20 <b>Youth Camping Trip</b> <b>1:00pm–2:00pm</b> Knitting Group, YR <b>6:30pm–8:30pm</b> Administration Committee Meeting, CR <b>7:00pm–8:30pm</b> Boy Scouts, FH	21 <b>6:30pm–8:30pm</b> Session Meeting CR	22 <b>8:00am–12:00pm</b> Men's Work Day <b>9:00am–4:00pm</b> Office Open <b>12:00pm–2:00pm</b> Parish Nurse in Office	23	24 <b>Priscilla Shirer Conference</b> <b>12:00pm–2:00pm</b> Action Group Meeting, YR	25 <b>Priscilla Shirer Conference</b>
26 <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service	27 <b>1:00pm–2:00pm</b> Knitting Group, YR <b>7:00pm–8:30pm</b> Boy Scouts, FH	28 <b>11:00am–12:00pm</b> Downtown Readers Book Club, YR <b>6:45pm–8:45pm</b> Deacon's Meeting, CR	29 <b>8:00am–12:00pm</b> Men's Work Day <b>9:00am–4:00pm</b> Office Open <b>12:00pm–2:00pm</b> Parish Nurse in Office 7:00pm–8:00pm Webelos 1, AR	30	31	

# 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

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