

Fenton First Presbyterian Church
Living with Christ, Serving the World

Newsletter September 2018

Welcome Home

CHURCH

is not
SOMETHING
YOU GO TO

♥ It's a ♥

Family
YOU BELONG TO

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

Pastor's Article by Pastor Lindsey Carnes

"Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other." – Romans 12:4-5

Life together. I can't say it often enough. I am grateful, blessed, excited, and humbled to be part of what God is doing in and through FFPC. Every pastor says this, but it is the church family that supports us completely, prays for us, and enables us to do what we do. When I am out in the community, I tell other people what I love about my church.

I love that our church is highly relational. People who walk through our doors know that nobody's perfect, anything's possible and everybody's welcome. As Christians, when we are rooted together in Christ we are able to withstand a lot of difficulties because we are connected together. People who walk through our doors are not a number, they are people who are a part of a bigger family.

And in many ways church is like a family. There are special relationships formed in church because people who attend church share a common bond. That is because in most cases, casual friends may care about you but very seldom do they care deeply about your soul, will pray for you, will encourage you when you are down, will love you unconditionally, and will care about where you spend eternity. That type of relationship is often unique to the church.

1 John 1:7 says, "But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin." Christian fellowship is distinct from other friendships and is different from just spending time with friends. Many people have told me that the church and the relationships within the church has made such a difference in their lives. **Because we were not designed to do life alone, life is better when we do life together.**

Certainly, there is no better place to do life with others than in smaller groups such as choir, fellowship groups, prayer group, Bible studies, Bookbinders, and Covenant groups. Where else on earth are you surrounded by a group of loving friends who long for what is best for you and are willing to tolerate all your bumps along the way because they see you and themselves as working out of your salvation in Christ? Can you think of someone you know who might need or appreciate belonging to a group like these at our church? Almost 90% of people come to church with a friend who invited them, so how to we extend our welcome?

Extending Our Welcome. How do we extend our welcome? What if a simple step could change the life of someone you know? We all have unique stories and we all have a past. We want people to know that no matter their past or their present, they are welcome here. Our church is a place to ask questions and find answers. Our church is a place to share and give love.

September 9th is Come Home Sunday. This will be a special Sunday to celebrate with our church family and encourage each other to dive deeper into our life together. It's also a special time to take a step and invite someone to church. Life is better when we do it together. Who will you invite to come with you? Invite someone to come with you for a special Sunday, September 9th 10am-11:30am.

A Place to Belong

Do you believe that you are enough?

We are a driven people. We need to be more. We need to do more. Need to look more, to make more and to succeed more. Can we ever be enough?

Take a deep breath and hear this:

There is a place where you are already enough.

There is a place where you are already worthy.

There is a place where you already belong.

That place is FFPC.

It does not matter what you have done, what you have said, or who you have been. You do not need to change, or become anything other than all you are, right this very moment.

Right now, you belong at FFPC.

Sunday, September 9, is National Back to Church Sunday

where we will be welcoming everyone back to church after summer vacations. There will be one service at 10am to celebrate our life together as a church family, and kick-off a new year of spiritual learning.

As part of this celebration, the Christian Education Committee will be giving 3rd graders the Jesus Bible during worship. This Bible features introductions explaining where Jesus appears in each book of the Bible, 365 devotions revolving around the "sightings" of Jesus in the Old Testament and his life and teachings in the New Testament, application notes to help kids apply Jesus' teachings to real life today, and much, much more. We hope you and your child are able to join us this very special day.

In addition to giving out 3rd grade bibles, all who teach, shepherd, and volunteer for our children, youth and adult education programs will be commissioned on Back to Church Sunday. If you have heard God's call to teach or lead ministry of the church, and actively support educational ministries with a positive and passionate spirit of energy, imagination, and love. We want to recognize your commitment and pray over the start of your ministry involvement for this school year.

With Gratitude, The Christian Education Committee,
Deb Bard, PJ Collier, Jenny Gibb, Larry Zimbler, Tina Ritchie,
and Pastors Lindsey and Robbie



The Church is not a building. It is a gathering of people brought together to experience Gods love and purpose.

Mission and Stewardship

Mission Updates

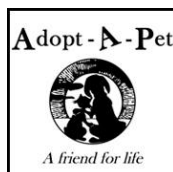


Empty Bowls at the Food Bank

On Thursday, September 20, the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan is having a fun fundraiser called Empty Bowls. For \$25/person, you gain admission to their new Hunger Center building and enjoy all the soups and breads you want to eat from area restaurants as well as select a ceramic bowl for your home created by local artisans. There will be two serving times: 11:00 am-2:00 pm and 4:00 pm-7:00 pm. To make it even more fun, a group of us will meet at the church and car pool there together. We will meet at 11:00 am and leave the church by 11:15 am. If you can join us, please sign up in fellowship hall so we do not leave anyone behind. If you have any questions, please ask either Bill or Nikki Black. If you are driving yourself, use "1939 Howard Ave. Flint MI" for GPS directions. If you would like more information about the Food Bank and/or the Empty Bowls program, check out their website: www.FBEM.org



All those interested in Volunteering at the **Fenton Adopt-A-Pet** on Saturday, September 15th, are asked to sign up in Fellowship Hall. Volunteer from 9am-1pm, or whatever your time allows. This is a child friendly event, families are welcome. Questions? Call Ken Wensel at 248-513-1340



Family Promise: September 10th & 12th
We assist the Flushing Presbyterian Church in hosting homeless families by providing dinner, evening social time, overnight hosts and breakfast. If you would like to volunteer to help in one of these areas, please see Dave Eshleman

Theological Education Sunday September 16, 2018

September 16th is Theological Education Sunday in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Please join us in praying for the Church's future ministers, and look for opportunities to mentor those among us who have gifts for ministry. Our Church supports future ministers who are Presbyterian students at PC(USA) seminaries through The Theological Education Fund (TEF).

Recently housed at the Presbyterian Foundation, the TEF channels gifts of Presbyterians and their congregations to Presbyterian seminaries and, thereby, invests in the future of Christ's church.

To donate and find out more about the Theological Education Fund, visit the Presbyterian Foundation web site, which you can find at www.presbyterianfoundation.org/te



Photo credit:
Rich Copley

Guide and Gift,
Show us your ways and
your way forward even
when we approach an
impasse. Thank you for
providing spiritual leaders
in our past and present.
Strengthen our resolve to
support those ministers in
seminary now, who you
have called to lead us in
your imagined future.
With Christ, May it be.
Amen.



College Care Package donations needed through October 7.

Items requested are hot cocoa, tea, popcorn, crackers, granola bars, candy, gum, pencils, pens, post-it notes and the like. Collection bins are outside the Youth Room and in Fellowship Hall. Let Tina Ritchie or the office know the address of your college student. Youth group will be packaging items on October 14. There's nothing like a treat from home when you are away at school!

October Mission Events:

Crop Hunger Walk: October 7th

Peace & Global Witness Offering: October 7th

Habitat for Humanity: October 13th

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 July 31, 2018

Pledged	\$351,941
Received to date:	\$293,593

Building Fund

Building Account Balance:	\$19,970
Mortgage Remaining:	\$300,284



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

Congregational Life

Coming Home Baked Goodies

For those who signed up to bring Homemade Goodies for the Coming Home Coffee Hour, please remember to have them at church by 9:30 plated and ready to go.

September 23rd is Happy Birthday to You Coffee Hour

We are looking for people to bake a cake and decorate a table to represent a month so we can celebrate the Birthdays of that month. There is a signup sheet in Fellowship Hall

Flu Shots September 23rd

Flu Shots will be available on Sunday September 23rd after the 11 o'clock service. These are cover by Medicare and most insurance's.

"Congregational life wherein each member has his opportunity to contribute to the life of the whole body, those gifts with which the Spirit endows him is as much of the essence of the Church as are ministry and sacraments."

Lesslie Newbigin

Group Gatherings



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



Downtown Readers Book Club: Meetings take place the last Tuesday of the month, at 11:00am, in the Youth Room. The book for October is The Fairy Tale Girl by Susan Branch. The November selection is My Grandmother Asked Me To Tell You She's Sorry by Frederick Backman. Men and women are encouraged to join!



Book Binders will meet September 11th at the home of Shirley Israel, 16313 Quail Ridge Ct. at 7:00 pm. The book for discussion is The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot. The book for October is The Marsh Kings Daughter by Karen Dionne. If you have any questions please call Shirley at 810-750-0227.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP *Luncheon*

Over the years, we as a congregation enjoyed having Roger Terrill as a fellow member and friend at First Presbyterian Church of Fenton. Roger always loved the people he shared his faith with and always went out of his way to make each and every one of us feel special. One of the things Roger did was to bring the men of our church together at a Fellowship Lunch. He made the arrangements at a local restaurant that could accommodate our group, he worked out a menu that would meet our needs and he made a lot of phone calls to make sure all of us were invited and encouraged to attend.

We are going to continue Roger's efforts by holding a Men's Fellowship Luncheon in his honor. We will be able to share some stories and memories involving Roger and his relationship with us and our church.

Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 11:30am
Villager Family Restaurant, 1121 N Saginaw St. in Holly, Michigan.
\$15.00 person covers the meal, tax and tip.

We will be enjoying the same basic menu Roger selected the last few times we met at the Villager.

Please plan on joining your friends and fellow members and help to keep up a tradition started a number of years ago by a very unforgettable man.

You are encouraged to also mention this event to other members.

Please confirm your reservation prior to September 7th
by calling the church office at 810 629 7801 or sending an email to Jon O'Connell at jonoc1936@yahoo.com.

We hope to see you there.



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

Fall Bible Study

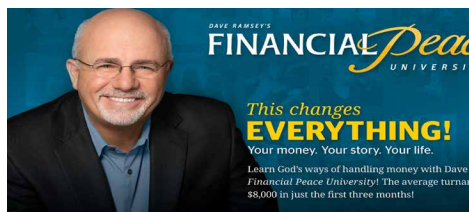
Sunday Morning Educational Hour: CASKET EMPTY September 16 – November 18 from 10-10:45am in Fellowship Hall. Have you ever thought that the Old Testament section of the Bible is a confusing collection of stories, poems and ancient documents? Have you ever thought that Scripture could be made more understandable 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 are in the Fellowship Hall. Adults and youth are welcome to attend.

Monday Evening Women's Covenant: will study Present Over Perfect: Leaving Behind Frantic For A Simpler, More Soulful Way Of Living by Shauna Niequist September 17 – October 22 from 6:30-8pm. Led by Pastor Lindsey, childcare is provided upon request. Do you long to live a life of meaning and connection? Instead, are you pushing for perfection, settling for busy? Learn an entirely new way to live: soaked in grace, rest, silence, simplicity, prayer, play, and connection with the people that matter most. Leave behind the pressure to be perfect, perform faster, push harder, and produce more, and begin the life-changing practice of simply being present, in the midst of the mess and the ordinariness of life. Call the office as soon as possible to order your copy.

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.

WORKSHOPS



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.



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

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!

Library News



The Library and Christian Education Committees deeply thank Nikki Curtis for her time serving as our librarian. Nikki needed to step down after she and Ryan recently purchased a new home, along with balancing careers and other responsibilities. We are grateful she is still available to help us from time to time. At present, our committee members are Nikki Black, Pam Coffin, and Linda McCleary, with interest from Margie Congdon. The next meeting will be scheduled in September; please contact Nikki Black or Pam if you are interested in learning about responsibilities of the library committee.

One of the recent additions to our Church Library is a book called Box of Butterflies by Roma Downey. You may remember her as one of the angels on the television show, "Touched by an Angel". In this book, she talks about the many times during her life when a butterfly appeared in some form, and how during both ups and downs, they helped her to find God and her faith.

Other new additions of replacement memoriam books are:

- 1) Healing After Loss by Martha Whitmore Hickman in memory of Leon Becker
- 2) God's Dream by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Douglas Carlton Abrams in memory of Dee Brandt
- 3) Weak Enough to Lead, What the Bible Tells Us about Powerful Leadership by James C. Howell in memory of Graig Griffith
- 4) Holy In the Moment: Simple Ways to Love God and Enjoy your Life by Ginger Harrington in memory of Bill Herman
- 5) The Blessings of Motherprayer: Sacred Whispers of Mothering by Barbra Mahany in memory of Terri Hartwell
- 6) Olivia and the Olive Branch: A Story of Hope by Amy Gramer in memory of Mary Sutherby

It is our hope that everyone will take advantage of the many books that can speak in to your life offered from our library and library cart!

Family Corner

20 Back to School Truths to Help Kids Know God Loves Them by Jess Wolstenholm

“Don’t copy the behavior or customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” Romans 12:2 (NLT)

We’ve been digging into Romans 12:2 the past few months, looking at what it means to raise kids who are IN, not OF this world in which we live. We’ve determined that above all else, raising kids who are set apart starts with their relationship with Jesus. Then, once they surrender their lives to him, they can allow God to change the way they think. Because our actions and attitudes begin with our thoughts, what comes out of our mouths and in our behavior originates in our mind.

A child’s most powerful thoughts are those related to his/her identity. Confidence is the foundation on which kids build their character and future. What children believe about themselves affects the thoughts that fill their mind and therefore, their attitudes and actions toward others.

Children are naturally born with varying degrees of confidence. Then characteristics, experiences, and circumstances either add to their self-assurance or take away from it. We can’t always control the outside influences that our kids encounter but we can make sure their foundation is built on solid truth about who they are and to whom they belong. Knowing who we are in Christ allows us to be in the world but not conform to its cultural norms.

As you prepare to send your kids back to school this year, spend some time cultivating their self-worth. Share the following identity statements and scriptures with your children. Memorize them together as a family. If you want your kids to be a light in this dark world, fill them with truth about their position in Christ that will give them the confidence to shine.

We’ve even created a printable you can use to encourage your kids every day! Download it here <http://cdn.jellytelly.com/downloads/20-back-to-school-truths-jelly-telly.pdf>

Cut out the truth cards to use as lunchbox notes or tape them to your kids’ mirror so they see the truth every morning before school. Cut out these truths to help your kids learn that God loves them! Perfect for back to school lunchbox notes, to tape on the fridge or mirror, and more.



Youth Group



Youth Mission Wednesday:

On August 8 youth group had a Wednesday workday where we offered assistance to members of our congregation. 10 youth and 2 adults cleared brush and vines away from a shed, tore apart a shingled display structure, cleared out an attic, packaged another 110 bags of feminine products for Faith In Femininity, AND prepared for our worship service on August 12. We enjoyed helping and getting to know those we served, and capped the day with ice cream from Kim's Cones. Watch for more mission workdays to be scheduled in the fall.

Upcoming Youth Group Activities:

- All meetings are at church from 5-7pm unless noted.
- During the first part of most youth group meetings we will be learning from the Gospel Project curriculum for students.
- The schedule is posted on our website www.ffpc.org under the youth tab, and on the youth and CE bulletin boards.
- A Parental Consent form must be on file for all offsite events; it can be downloaded from our website under the youth tab or on the youth bulletin board. If you'd like to be on the Youth News email list, contact Tina Ritchie at tina@ffpc.org or text 810-701-4136. Also, let Tina know if you need a ride for any youth event! Friends are always welcome.

September 9: Kick-off Event

September 16: Youth Group



September 23: Youth Group

September 30: Youth Group

October 7: CROP Walk 2-3pm Bush Park

***Sat. October 13:** Habitat for Humanity 9a-4p

October 14: College Care Packages

Adults: Do you have a passion for young people? Are you interested in getting to know our youth? Would you like to provide support to our youth program? Here are 10 ways you can help:

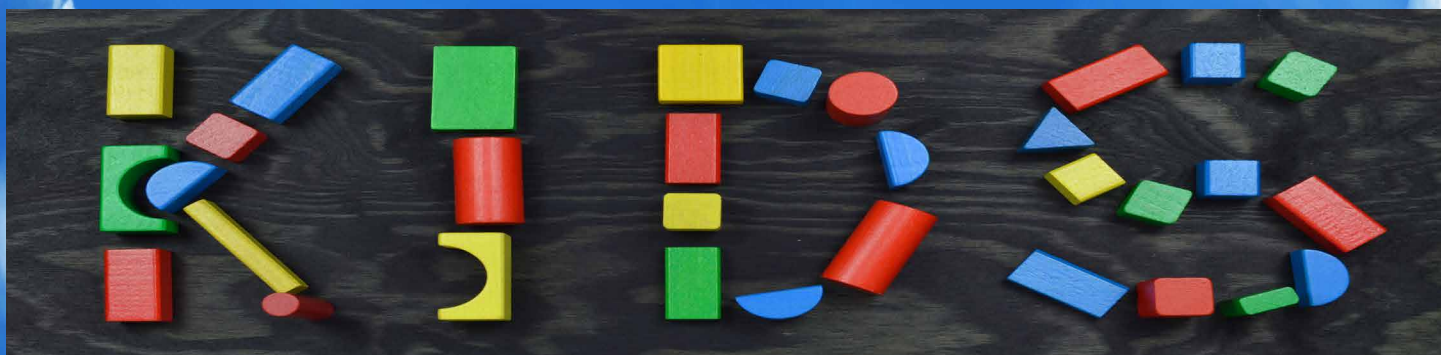
1. Provide snacks
2. Lead games
3. Chaperon events
4. Drive for an event
5. Host an event
6. Facilitate Gospel Project lessons during youth group for either middlers or high schoolers
7. Serve together in mission activities
8. Bring returnable bottles and cans to the youth room for our scholarship account
9. Turn in your ENTIRE VG's receipt in the main entryway collection box
10. Sign-up for Kroger Rewards



See Tina Ritchie to share how you can help.

Children's Ministry

For Children Preschool – 5th Grade



Club 45

- 9/30 Cards (Autumn) and get to know what Club 45 is about
- 10/28 Pumpkin Carving
- 11/11 Veterans' Craft
- 12/16 Christmas Cards
- 1/20 TBD
- 2/10 Valentine's Cards
- 3/10 St. Patty's Cards
- 4/14 Easter Cards
- 5/5 Mother's Day Craft and Cards
- 6/2 Father's Day Craft and Cards

New Sunday School starts September 16th!

Gospel Project Teachers and Shepherds needed:

We are looking for 3-4 adults per age group to take turns facilitating on Sunday mornings each quarter; youth may fill shepherding roles. We are currently recruiting folks for September 16 through December 9. Please keep in mind this time commitment is equivalent to signing up for a rotation in our previous rotation model curriculum. Class groups are one preschool class during 10am worship and three age groups consisting of preschool, younger kids (K-2nd), and older kids (3-5th) during 11am worship.

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!** Please see PJ Collier or Deb Bard if you feel God is calling you to work with and get to know our children. Please prayerfully consider how you might be a part of this new adventure in learning about and loving Jesus and one another.



Worship

Youth Worship

Excerpts from Youth Summer Re-cap Worship on August 12th

The theme of the 2018 Montreat High School Youth Conference was “Lift Every Voice”. Personally, Montreat was the most impactful youth conference I have ever been to, and I learned a great deal from the experience. I’m not sure if this was due to increased maturity, the people at the conference, or just the prevalence and importance of the theme. At each of the five days of Montreat, we talked about a different component of lifting every voice, each of them being just as important as the last....



On day 2, we talked about difficult voices: the voices in our lives that are tough to listen to, and that we sometimes don’t want to make time for. Difficult voices can come in so many different forms, such as arguments, criticism, or a perspective we don’t agree with. At Montreat, we were reminded that these voices are just as important as all others. It is impossible to know what every person has been through, or what they are going through at that time. As Christians, we are called to be compassionate; we are called to be good listeners. Sometimes, it can be hard to listen to the difficult voices around us, and it is much easier to tune them out. These voices can cause us to hurt; they can bring to light things that we would rather not know. Some of these voices are so hard to hear because of our own issues, and not the source of the voice itself. However, it is so important to stop and remember that difficult voices became difficult for a reason. Listening to difficult voices can help us to grow. In lifting every voice, even the difficult ones, we give those voices the chance to be heard, to be comforted, and to be eventually at peace....

The last day of the Montreat conference, we spoke about United voices and the beautiful things that can happen when we, as Christians, unite and complete God’s will together. We can do so much more as the body of the church than we can alone. God created us to work together in God’s image. Through combining our gifts, our passions, and our ideas, we can achieve wonderful things in the name of the Lord. We learned a new word at Montreat that all of us thought was so inspiring: “ubuntu”. It is of South African origin, and means “I am because we are”. Everything I do has an effect on you and your wellbeing, and everything that you do has an effect on me and my wellbeing. It is a universal truth. The word is famous for its use by Desmond Tutu to help change apartheid, the system of segregation in South Africa used in the 20th century. Ubuntu reminds us that each of us can learn beautiful things from one another, and we all have something different and good to bring to the table. As a society, and even as Christians, we tend to disagree with each other on many things; each of us thinks our own ideas are better than somebody else’s. However, it is important to recognize the beauty in our differences, and to learn the ways in which these differences can benefit us. Only then can we successfully unite our voices to praise our wonderful God. – **Lindsey Gibb**

In June, I travelled to Massanetta, Virginia because I was accepted as an enabler at the Massanetta Middle School Conference. If you aren't familiar with what that is, it is a 4 day conference prepared for middle schoolers that gives them the opportunity to explore their faith, meet amazing people, and connect with God. I went all three years as a middler, and being there is what really inspired me to think about my faith and me relationship with God. The enablers I had in middle school helped me understand what being a part of God's family means to me, and I felt called to do the same for other middlers. However, I found that was much more difficult than it came across.



Taking on this role of being an enabler included planning 4 worship services in 2 ½ days, leading a group of crazy pubescent middle schoolers, living in a small house with 21 other exhausted and emotional enablers, and much, much more. In the midst of all the worries, stress, and confusion was God. It was incredible to be a part of the endless love and support the other enablers and myself could so easily give. And as an enabler for 2 conferences, I was blessed to witness 300 middle schoolers come together each time, set their differences aside, and get to know each other.

The theme was "Ya'll are Mine." That means that God has us – we don't have God. When we pass through rough waters, God has us. When we are thrown into a pit of fire, God has us. During the 2 weeks of enabling I really thought a lot about what this means to me and how I could help the middlers understand what this might mean to them. What continued to come back to me was the many ways God was made present through the people at "Netta." We were handpicked broken vessels of God's family called to come together. I believe this concept goes further than just Netta, but is important to bring back home and everywhere else we set foot. I learned how to set my differences aside and find ways through my experiences to connect with the middlers. I had one middler who experienced extreme social anxiety. Although I could not relate to him, I was able to listen and understand him by talking about my sometimes introvert moments. I has another middler who struggled with depression and after talking to him he was grateful to become aware that he has people to listen and talk with him...

I learned that however many miles we may live from one another, there are so many other people that are claimed by God to love how God wants us to love. Massanetta is my family, and you are my family. We do a lot for each other in this congregation such as praying, celebrating, mourning, and often helping others in need. We are sometimes like those middlers struggling with depression, anxiety, and finding where we belong. We are fearful of sharing our deepest needs because we might be judged and truly seen. What is often experienced at Netta is a model for how we can carry out our lives everywhere. When we are willing to risk being vulnerable and share who we really are, God shows up. Through others, we experience understanding, belonging, and healing. I challenge you to listen . Be present. When we live into being claimed by God, we live together, created one, as God's family. – **Waverly Ritchie**

"Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity." 1 Timothy 4:12

Worship

New Preaching Series! For the months of September and October we will be delving into Jesus life and exploring some of the lesser know detail of our Savior. This past summer we have studied familiar Old Testament stories and looked at them in a new light. This Fall we hope to the same to the life of Jesus.

SUNDAY, September 9th, 10am

Come Home-Back to Church Sunday

Preaching: Pastor Lindsey Carnes

Sermon: Who is Jesus? Childhood

Scripture: Luke 2:41-52

Layreader: Youth

Ushers: Team 5

Sound Tech: Ina Golden

Coffee Hour: Red Team

Banker: Craig Williams

Counters: Shirly Israel & Dennis Beardslee

Children's Sunday School: TBD

Preschool: TBD

Nursery:TBD

MONDAY, September 10th, 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, September 16, 2018

9am & 11am Services Resume

Preaching: Pastor Robbie Carnes

Sermon: Who is Jesus? Early Ministry

Scripture: Mark 1:21-39

Layreader: Janet Stork

Ushers: 9am Jack Allen & Greg Dean
11am Team 6

Sound Tech: Jay Kirkey

Coffee Hour: Orange Team

Counters: Martha Smith & Sara Wrage

Banker: **Greg Dean**

Children's Sunday School: TBD

Preschool: TBD

Nursery:TBD

SUNDAY, September 23rd, 2018

Preaching: Pastor Lindsey Carnes

Sermon: Who is Jesus? Parables Part 1

Scripture: Luke 12:13-21

Layreader: Jeff Collier

Ushers: 9am Jim Lindsay & Mark Jacobson
11am Team 1

Sound Tech: Doug Watters

Coffee Hour: Yellow Team

Counters: Lin Savage & Ken Wensel

Children's Sunday School: TBD

Preschool: TBD

Nursery:TBD

SUNDAY, September 30th, 2018

Preaching: Pastor Robbie Carnes

Sermon: Who is Jesus? Parables Part 2

Scripture: Luke 19:11-27

Layreader: Jackie Arrol

Ushers: 9am Sherry Hunt & Ken Wensel
11 Team 2

Sound Tech: Mark Gibb

Coffee Hour: Green Team

Counters: Jon O'Connell & Maureen Utt

Children's Sunday School: TBD

Preschool: TBD

Nursery:TBD

September Church Mouse - Nancy Berger

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.

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.

Announcements

Treasurer Report

June 2018

	Actual	YTD	Budgeted YTD
Income	\$25,354.01	\$215,618.64	\$340,843.00
Expenses	\$25,821.28	\$166,866.01	\$340,843.00
Over	\$ (467.27)	Under	\$ 48,752.63*

*You'll notice a big difference in YTD totals. The budget committee has incorporated the Building Fund income and expenses in June's general fund. In the past, the Building Fund was in a separate Data Base and wasn't included in our monthly totals. These adjustments are preparing us for our 2019 budget. The reason for this is because we must absorb the Building Fund into our general accounting, since Building fund campaign ends in May of 2019.

July 2018

	Actual	YTD	Budgeted YTD
Income	\$28,683.25	\$242,883.94	\$340,843.00
Expenses	\$27,802.05	\$197,011.50	\$340,843.00
Under	\$881.20	Under	\$ 45,872.44

Respectably submitted,
Debera J Bard
08/09/2018



Where do we serve God's World?

We often talk about where God might call each of us to serve using our spiritual gifts and time. Many in our congregation are already serving in ways the rest of us are not even aware of.

To give us an idea on where people are serving in the church and in our community, we have placed a large banner in fellowship hall, and we ask each of you to add your name in the appropriate boxes that show where you are serving. Others in the congregation may have an interest in volunteering with you and will be able to ask you about it.

We have added a short list on the banner for each box area. The short list probably does not capture all of the possible service areas, but it may trigger other thoughts. Add your name in all the boxes where you serve.

Birthday's

Shannon Clemens	Sep 4
Doug Congdon	Sep 4
Shane Maloney	Sep 4
Edwin Schwarz	Sep 4
Pat Tucker	Sep 6
Clayton Miller	Sep 7
Marc Hoerauf	Sep 8
Sharlyn Sutton	Sep 8
Cheryl Kopplin	Sep 9
Ron Andersen	Sep 12
Karyn Kutchey	Sep 12
Ruth Hanna	Sep 13
Laura Kinser	Sep 17
Sue Lantz	Sep 17
Linda Banks	Sep 19
Roberta O'Hara	Sep 19
Halle Fisher	Sep 20
Madison Janowak	Sep 22
Larry Arrol	Sep 23
Alice Maletic	Sep 24
Tim Hiscock	Sep 26
Gloria Butts	Sep 29
Jeff Collier	Sep 29
James Kryza	Sep 30
Doug Watters	Sep 30

Anniversaries

John & Janet Stork	Sep 1
Al & Laurie Thomas	Sep 9
Robert & Barbara Chappelle	Sep 12
Chris & Becky Garske	Sep 12
John & Gerri Danules	Sep 17
William & Martha Smith	Sep 17
John & Shari Foguth	Sep 20
James & Nancy Nelson	Sep 20
David & Kristin Harper	Sep 23
Glenn & Cherri Maxwell	Sep 23
Dennis & JoAnn Beardslee	Sep 24
Steve & Carey Muntin	Sep 25
Brian & Sherry Rourke	Sep 25
John & Holly Hodgkin	Sep 26
John & Julie Maloney	Sep 26
Don & Karyn Kutchey	Sep 28

It's Equal Exchange time!! The Holidays are just a few months away. It's time to think about what you'll need to buy so you can bake you're treats. Just a reminder, Equal Exchange offers organic coffees, teas, hot chocolate, baking cocoa, chocolate chips, chocolate bars, olive oil, and so much more. Stock up now, there won't be another order until next year. I'll take orders starting Sunday, September 23th and September 30th. Please see Debbie Bard in Fellowship Hall.

NEWS TO KNOW

Parking in Downtown Fenton

As the Fenton downtown area grows, many of us are finding that it is harder and harder to find parking. This is an issue on Sunday mornings as well as weekday evenings. This will be an ongoing issue and there are several ideas being worked on to improve things. Here are some helpful tips as you look for parking in the downtown Fenton area.

1. Don't park in the Fire Lane. You may have noticed white striping has been painted around the dumpsters and the Fenton House building. While this has been a convenient source of parking in the past, it is a Fire Lane and needs to be left open for that purpose. If you choose to park there, you may be ticketed.
2. Parking is available on the street (highlighted below). While it can be difficult to find parking in the church lot and the adjacent city lot, many times there is available parking on the street. Elizabeth Street, Leroy Street, Mill Street and even Shiawassee Avenue usually have open spots on Sunday.
3. Don't forget the other public parking lots. The A.J. Phillips Museum parking off of Leroy, the Post Office parking lot and the parking lot next to El Topo on Mill Street are all available for public parking on Sunday morning.
4. Don't be afraid to walk a block. The City's parking plan is to provide parking within 500 feet of any given business entrance. This may mean that you will get the benefit of unintended exercise, which is a great thing.
5. Look out for temporary handicap parking in the Church's lot (blue). This summer you will begin to see temporary handicap parking signs in some of the spots closest to the New Entrance. If you are able, please reserve these spots for those who have difficulty walking longer distances.



WAYS TO GIVE

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



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



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



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



Non-Cash Giving: Assets or Planned Gifts



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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR MISSION!

NON PROFIT
U.S. Postage
PAID
Fenton, Michigan
Permit No. 85

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
503 S. LEROY STREET
FENTON, MI 48430-1736