

# FENTON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LIVING WITH CHRIST, SERVING THE WORLD



*And you became imitators of us and of the Lord,*

*for in spite of persecution*

*you received the word with joy*

*inspired by the Holy Spirit*

# PASTORS ARTICLE

## THE HOLY SPIRIT CHANGES US

During this month we will celebrate Pentecost. At its core, Pentecost reminds us of the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit. Often overlooked in Presbyterian and Reformed circles, it is good to dwell on who the Holy Spirit is and what the Spirit does in our lives.

Jesus said in John 16:7, “But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I am going away. For if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you, but if I go, I will send him to you.” The Holy Spirit is the presence of God with us in Jesus’ absence. It must have been a scary proposition for the disciples for Jesus to mention leaving them. Jesus was their leader and teacher. He led them in prayer and spoke powerfully to those in charge. How could they be disciples without Jesus? If Jesus was to leave them, what would that mean for all of what Jesus had built and was doing in the lives of the Jewish people? How could the disciples possibly carry on with the ministry?



While Jesus died and was raised again, we know that Jesus ascended into Heaven. It is the Holy Spirit who is present to us on earth now. Just as the disciples proceeded to spread the Gospel to the world in the power of the Holy Spirit, we can have confidence in our fellowship and ministry that we are not left alone but live in the presence of the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit also empowers us to do God’s will. We know that in Galatians 5:22-23 it says “the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” The Holy Spirit transforms our hearts so that we might exhibit the fruit of God’s holiness in our lives. There are gifts the Spirit gives so that we might be well equipped for ministry. There is also encouragement and insight that the Holy Spirit grants us so that we might be qualified witnesses to the goodness of God and testify to the work of Christ effectively. God does not command us to a task without equipping us for the task.

The Holy Spirit also sends us. The twelve people that Jesus chose were called Disciples. This means that Jesus was teaching them. In Acts we find that those same people are suddenly referred to as Apostles. This means that they are now being sent by the Holy Spirit to accomplish kingdom work in the world. While we don’t use the title ‘apostle’ in our church, we should expect that if we are living in the Spirit we will be sent to places to carry out the mission of God. Many of us have stories of how we have found ourselves in ministry situations that could only have been the leading of the Spirit. Listening to the Spirit’s leading is a spiritual skill we all need to be practicing.

The Holy Spirit abides with us, empowers us and sends us out into the world. If we are Christians we should expect the Holy Spirit to begin working with us, not being conformed to this present world, but being transformed (Romans 12:2). The Holy Spirit brings spiritual growth and missional change. No matter what age we are or position in life, we all can stand to grow and step into God’s plan for us. This month we will be dwelling on how the Holy Spirit’s activities in our lives changes us. Every aspect of our lives should be marked by the Spirit and be transformed. Let us not extinguish the Spirit (1 Thessalonians 5:19), but let us receive the Holy Spirit’s message of joy and be imitators of Christ (1 Thessalonians 1:6).

Pastor Robbie

# MISSION AND STEWARDSHIP

## MISSION SPOTLIGHT

**RED CROSS  
BLOOD DRIVE**  
SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST  
8:45AM-1:30PM



**HELP  
SAVE A  
LIFE!**

**AMERICAN  
RED CROSS**

**GIVE THE GIFT OF BLOOD**  
ON JUNE 1st our church will be hosting a BLOOD DRIVE from 8:45am to 1:30pm with Red Cross.

If you wish to donate blood call Red cross at 1-800-733-2767 or sign-up online at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) to schedule an appointment. For more information please contact Jo Beardslee or Sherry Hunt.

## NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN JUNE 15, 2019



North End Soup Kitchen: All those interested in volunteering for this mission event on June 15th, from 2:00pm-5:30pm are asked to sign up in Fellowship Hall. We will help prepare and serve dinner to the hungry. Those desiring to carpool are asked to meet at the church by 1:20pm, as we will depart for the Soup Kitchen at 1:30pm. Please contact Ken Wensel for more information.







Pentecost Offering  
JUNE 9th, 2019

Who was the first person to teach you about Jesus?  
Who was the first person to show you how to honor God with your life?

**WHO HELPED YOU OPEN THE DOORS  
TO NEW UNDERSTANDINGS OF GOD AND FAITH?**

When did these things happen? For many of us, they happened during our childhood. They happened at home, at Sunday School, at church, at camp, or perhaps through mission trips or experiences of service.

We probably don't need a study to tell us that a foundation of faith established during childhood through young adulthood, the first third of life, helps ensure lifelong faith and service – yet studies do show this to be true. Psalm 71 testifies to this same truth. Verse 17 says “O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.” The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life.

During Pentecost, we celebrate that the Holy Spirit has opened the doors to faith in Jesus Christ. Just as many of us were nurtured in faith during our youth, we give to support these ministries and offer ourselves in service to the faith formation of other youth and young adults. We join with the Spirit and the whole church, so that the generations to come will still proclaim God's wondrous deeds.

**Won't you join in your support? If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.**

40% of the Pentecost Offering remains with our congregation.

25% goes to Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) experience.

25% supports ministries with youth, ages 12–18, and those called to accompany them.

10% supports the “Educate a Child, Transform the World” national initiative.



# 2019 ADOPT A PET UPDATE

Since 2006, Adopt-a-Pet has found homes for over 3000 cats and dogs and funded veterinary care for some very sick animals. Their objective is “to find loving homes for homeless dogs and cats as well as assist people in the community to find homes for their personal animals.”

On Saturday, May 18, 13 volunteers from our church and 12 volunteers from our scout troop had a wonderful time assisting Adopt-a-Pet on a nice day. We cleaned the dog kennels, weeded the flower beds, cut down garlic mustard plants, cleaned an office floor, processed donated pop cans (which pays for their electricity each month!), filled holes and performed numerous other outside landscaping chores. We use a portion of our time, talents and our mission budget to assist them in serving God’s cats and dogs.





# Building the Beloved Community

*By: Jonathan Reckford, CEO – Habitat for Humanity International and Margaret Kato, Executive Director – Genesee County Habitat for Humanity (1/19/2018)*

Habitat for Humanity is propelled by a vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live. We devote ourselves to creating that world because we believe everyone — every single one of us, regardless of who we are or where we come from — deserves a decent life and deserves the opportunity for a better future.

## Believing is not enough. And so we build.

We build houses — and through those houses, the strength, stability and self-reliance that families need in order to achieve a better life. That better life is our primary goal. And so when we build houses, we also build bridges between people of diverse backgrounds, we build paths to more connected communities, we build ways for all people to come together and share in the creation of a new world.

Believing is not enough. And so we build.

That new world allows access, equality and opportunity for all. That new world represents what Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. called “the Beloved Community.”

The Beloved Community is fair. The Beloved Community is just. And the Beloved Community is built on love. Not just any love, but as Dr. King said “the love of God operating in the human heart.” That’s a practical love that requires participation. When that love is truly and fully present, it compels us to act.

It’s part of Habitat’s birthright. We began at Koinonia Farm, an interracial community farm outside Americus, Georgia, founded in 1942 by farmer and biblical scholar Clarence Jordan. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, Clarence and his fellow Koinonia residents were fiercely committed to the equality of all people and utterly devoted to creating opportunity for all.

Born from that vision, we have grown into a global organization that has worked hard to live out that kind of love for more than 40 years. It fuels our belief that making homeownership accessible and affordable for low-income families is a critical component to creating the kind of future that Dr. King envisioned.

**The Beloved Community is built on love. Not just any love, but as Dr. King said “the love of God operating in the human heart.”**

We have to care about the needs of those among us who need our help. We have to take on the struggles of others as our own and want for them the exact things that we want for ourselves. We have to live each day in the knowledge that we are bound together, that each of us must do our part, that we thrive together or we will wither alone.

Justice, equal  
opportunity,  
love of fellow  
human beings.

Help build the [#BelovedCommunity](#).

During a brief correspondence in the 1950s, Dr. King wrote to Clarence, noting the struggles that Koinonia faced from hostile and unwelcoming neighbors. "I hope that you will gain some consolation from the fact that in your struggle for freedom and a true Christian community you have cosmic companionship. God grant that this tragic midnight of man's inhumanity to man will soon pass and the bright daybreak of freedom and brotherhood will come into being."

We still await that daybreak. While much has been done, so much more work remains. This will never be a world of equality, of fairness, of human decency that leaves no room for poverty or prejudice or violence, unless we build it. Bold actions speak louder than words. Working together, side by side, is what will continue to move us from tragic midnight to glorious morning. For as Dr. King so powerfully stated: "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

With his emphasis on the Beloved Community, Dr. King gave us the blueprint. Folks of faith and perseverance like Clarence have stewarded it and advanced it. Now it's up to all of us to make it a reality.

In 2018, as we mark the 50th anniversaries of Dr. King's tragic death and the passage of the Fair Housing Act just days later, Habitat renews our pledge to work harder than ever to help make the Beloved Community a reality. Join us in taking the pledge to build the beloved community today.

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

**Help Habitat with Humanity  
Bastille Day Race  
July 13th**

**Habitat for Humanity  
House Build  
July 27th**

**If you would like to volunteer, sign up in Fellowship Hall.  
For more information please Contact Brian Coles.**

## FAITH IN FEMININITY UPDATE



Faith in Femininity would like to thank the church and the congregation for their endless support. We are so excited to announce that our tax exempt status has officially been approved—we are a 501(c)(3)! Our packaging party in May went amazingly thanks to the help of the church and the rest of the community. We were able to package 524 bags—enough to serve 524 cycles!

This month, we would like to share more about why our mission is important. We live in a unique area—we are 15 minutes away from Flint, a city known for its poverty. However, there is much hidden need in our own communities of Fenton, Linden, and Holly. Unfortunately, the need for feminine products is something that is often overlooked, but they are a necessity nonetheless. For women who can't afford menstrual products, their period is something to be dreaded. Lack of supplies makes it difficult for women and girls to go to school or to work. Lack of supplies can be detrimental to a woman's confidence, not to mention her health. Sometimes, mothers are forced to choose between food for their children and feminine products for themselves. We feel that these are choices that women should never have to make.

We are humbled every time we meet the women we serve. It is amazing to see the positive effects that Faith in Femininity has on the lives of women in our community. On Saturday, May 11, we had the opportunity to go to the YWCA in Flint to pass out products to the women there. The women we met were so sweet, funny, and grateful for the donations. The 45 minutes we spent there were full of genuine conversation and exchanges of thanks. This time, our products were packaged in beautiful reusable bags (all generously donated by the League of Interesting Women) and each one had a piece of jewelry in it (thanks to Karen Terrill)! We were overjoyed to hear the women remark on the beauty of the bags and to see them try on their new jewelry. When we meet the women we serve, everyone in the room is filled with a sense of joy and community. We are so grateful for this mission, and to the church for raising us up and lending constant support and encouragement.



[HTTPS://FAITHINFEMININITY.ORG](https://faithinfemininity.org)

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM FAITHINFEMININITY](https://www.facebook.com/faithinfemininity)

[HTTPS://TWITTER.COM FAITHINFEM](https://twitter.com/faithinfem)

[HTTPS://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM FAITHINFEMININITY](https://www.instagram.com/faithinfemininity)



# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE



LIVING PROOF *Live*

**BETH MOORE**

WORSHIP with TRAVIS COTTRELL

**AUGUST 23-24, 2019**

**CINCINNATI, OH**

[LifeWay.com/LivingProof](http://LifeWay.com/LivingProof)

## LIVING PROOF LIVE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE WITH BETH MOORE

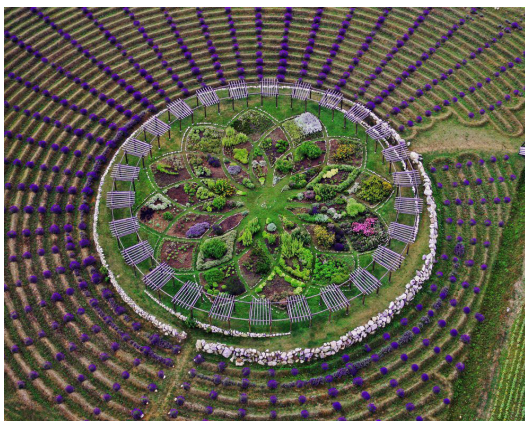
**August 23-24, 2019      Cincinnati, Ohio**

Join FFPC Women and Friends  
Overnight Women's Retreat  
Carpool/ Conference \$59\*/ Plus Hotel

\*This Rate is for 10 guests or more.

Hotel and Gas Extra. Approximate Time of Departure is Friday Aug.23th at 11:00am. Approximate Return Time is Saturday Aug.24th at 6pm.

Conference Reservation and Deposit Deadline is Sunday, June 30, 2019. Call Julie Grams at 810.955.8758 for more information and/or to register. You may also Register in Fellowship Hall.



## LAVENDER LABYRINTH AND HERB GARDEN DAY TRIP

Wednesday, July 17

Leave church at 9am

Youth, adults, & families are invited to travel to Cherry Point Farm in Shelby MI to tour the labyrinth and farm market. Afterward, those wishing to swim can meet up at the Silver Lake Sand Dunes State Park. Bring a sack lunch, money for snacks on the road and the farm market! Sign-up sheets will be in Fellowship Hall and the youth bulletin board.

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Christian Education Committee thanks the congregation for their patient support and participation with Sunday morning adult education in Fellowship Hall. In an effort to make adult education more visible and accessible, we sought various ways to offer continued learning. We are very pleased with participation in the Round Table Discussion topics on world religions from the Thoughtful Christian. We look forward to continued interest in growth as we share space in learning & fellowship!

## **Monday Prayer Ministry Team**

Our FFPC prayer team meets every 2nd and 4th Monday morning at 10 a.m. in the prayer annex of our sanctuary to promote prayer partnerships throughout our congregation. Drop in on us anytime to learn some fresh ways to engage in supportive intercessory prayer. Our prayer team is very grateful for all who pray for others, our nation, and for God's blessings for our life together in this community of Christ.

## **How would YOU answer these questions?**

During recent Youth Group discussions we asked the following questions; responses follow.

### **“Why is functional atheism not genuine faith? (belief in God while living as though God doesn’t exist)”**

- We must practice our faith daily & wholeheartedly embrace Christianity... not only on Sunday!
- Talk the talk but don't walk the walk.
- Not listening to the affirmation.
- Ignoring God's existence.
- You are not being true to yourself or God with this practice.

### **“Can you tell a difference in your own life?”**

- Yes! I am more confident and genuine when living my faith.
- Yes, believing, trusting, loving and faith is way more fulfilling than wandering, wondering, questioning and drama.
- Yes, I feel more prepared for life.
- By ignoring God, I get angry and bitter with God. With God my problems don't lessen, but they get easier to bear.

### **“How are you living in a post-truth kind of way?” (where truth gives way to emotions & personal beliefs)**

- Allowing other things to interfere with our relationship with God, i.e. money, attention, relationships, status, jealousy. We do the right things for the wrong reasons.
- Lying about things unnecessarily.
- Our culture encourages us to see things in ways that might not be true, and maybe focus on the wrong things.
- Lying/truth based decisions that can affect the outcome of your or someone else's day.

### **“Why is it dangerous for us to live that way?”**

- We lose focus on what is important.
- Because then we are less likely to live in the light of God's truth.
- Realness and transparency is important for relationships.
- It leads us further from God.
- It's unstable ground. It might look fine on the outside, but the inside is truly crumbling.



### “How might these false God’s have impacted the church?”

- People being pulled in many directions with so many activities, sports, and groups to be a part of and please.
- We feel that we don’t have time for church.
- Less time/energy
- We are distracted by our false Gods.
- Creating misdirection; pushing people off course

# FINANCIAL CORNER

## “5 FINANCIAL TIPS FOR SUCCEEDING IN COLLEGE”

THE CALIBER OF YOUR FUTURE WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE CHOICES YOU MAKE TODAY. BY ANTHONY O NEAL



Anthony O’Neal wants your college students to avoid making the same mistakes he did in college. For him, it’s personal. Anthony signed up for a credit card when he started college. Within six months he was \$25,000 in credit card debt. By the time he was 19, he lost his college scholarship, got kicked out of school, and was living out of his car. He hit rock bottom and knew it was time for a change. Since then, Anthony has dedicated his life’s work to helping students make good decisions with their money, relationships, and education.

The first step to succeeding in college is learning how to make good money decisions. One financial mistake as a college freshman can hurt your wallet for years! Here are five financial tips for high school graduates to thrive in college.

### 1. Avoid Student Loans

Outstanding student loan debt in America currently stands at \$1.4 trillion. Trillion! That’s ridiculous! The bottom line here is simple: paying back student loans always takes longer than you think and costs more than you want to spend. Students should avoid them at all costs! Don’t you wish someone had shared that insight with you when you were in college? The Graduate Survival Guide includes personal stories and practical advice to help students steer clear of loans.

### 2. Avoid Credit Cards

Despite what the credit card companies often tell new campus arrivals every fall, there’s really no such thing as a free pizza, a free T-shirt, or a free anything. For hungry college students, the offer of a free gift in exchange for a credit card application can be enticing. But no freebie is worth signing up for a debt trap. The Graduate Survival Guide shares the facts about credit cards, dispelling not only the “free” gift myth but also many others that could trap students in a cycle of debt.

### 3. Make Smart Financial Choices

Every young person, and especially every college student, must learn this: Your now impacts your tomorrow. That's why it's so important for young people to have the tools they need to make smart choices. From choosing the right major to avoiding scams, The Graduate Survival Guide gives students both the information and the inspiration they'll need to make good choices throughout college and into adulthood.

### 4. Make a Budget

This is where our budgeting expert Rachel Cruze takes the wheel. She will walk you through the steps you need to make a budget each month. It doesn't take long for college freshmen to realize the need for a detailed plan to track all of their classes, deadlines and study sessions. But far too many students fail to make a similar plan for their money. The Graduate Survival Guide helps students understand the importance of making and sticking to a budget. It also offers advice on things like insurance and budget-friendly date nights.

### 5. Start Saving Money Now

Many of tomorrow's millionaires are in college today. And when they hit seven figures, it probably won't be from winning the lottery or signing that longed-for sports contract. Instead, they'll reach millionaire status through the long and satisfying process of saving money over time. The Graduate Survival Guide teaches students the reasons they need to make saving a priority—even while still in college!

[The Graduate Survival Guide](#) by Anthony O'Neal and Rachel Cruze is the graduation gift you wish you had when you went off to college! Help the college folks in your life learn how to win with money now and for the rest of their life.

## FAMILY CORNER



### HOW CAN WE MAKE TEENAGERS CARE ABOUT THEIR FAITH

Written by Andy Blanks on February 11, 2015 for youthministry360.com

We were wrapping up the Q&A session at the end of a workshop I lead on how some of the main cultural trends impact teenagers' spiritual growth. There were about a hundred youth workers in the room and the questions throughout the

workshop had been excellent. This was a sharp group of folks. As the session began to wrap up, an older gentleman raised his hand.

“In your opinion, how do we make teenagers care about their faith?”

Well, then.

The question struck me as significant. I chuckled a bit when the man asked it. At first-blush, it was agonizingly misguided. How do we make teenagers care? Part of me wanted to say that I'm not sure I want to be in the business of making anyone care about anything. When it comes to caring, I'd prefer that people want to care!

And, yet, in other ways, this question may very well be THE question. I imagine his question was born



out of a history of investing himself in the spiritual growth of students. There was a good chance that he had watched over the years as some students did indeed come to care about their faith, thriving as a result. I can also imagine he has watched with frustration, and maybe sadness, as other teenagers failed to embrace the importance of their faith.

And so, I interpreted his question like this: “What can we do, as youth workers, [parents, and congregation members], to lead teenagers to understand that their faith, their identity as Christ-followers, is of primary importance”?

Truth be told, it started a lively discussion in the room, one that had to be cut short because we simply ran out of time. But I thought about his question, and the response it created in the room, for a few days afterward. While I don't know that I'm smart enough to come up with a comprehensive, bullet-proof answer, I did think of a few essential principles that need to be in place for teenagers to see their faith as important.



### **Their parents must view faith as important.**

One of the major takeaways from the National Study On Youth And Religion was that parents are the key influencers of their children's faith. In her book *Almost Christian*, Dr. Kenda Dean showed that teenagers more or less imitate their parents' faith. If their parents have a weak faith, this is the brand of faith most likely to be modeled by teenagers. If parents view faith as important, it is likely that their teenagers will as well. Of course, we know that teenagers who don't have parents who are Christ-followers can still live active faith lives. But, having faith viewed as important in the home is vital for the transference of a faith that is valued.

### **They must know God and be invested in knowing Jesus more.**

I tell our students this all the time: We can't follow someone we don't know. For faith to be important, teenagers have to understand their identity as Christ-followers as something beyond mere morality, or what some folks call “cultural Christianity.” They can't see “Christian” as just another label applied in describing them. Faith that matters is faith that flows out of a close proximity to Christ. Reading the Bible. Actively praying. Speaking and doing the Gospel. These are actions that both precipitate and perpetuate a faith that is valued.

### **They must grasp the enormity of our rebellion and the truth about lostness.**

In our culture, this is growing more tricky. In a world that doesn't see God's character or God's Word as standards, our sinfulness (defined as any deviation from these standards) is becoming a concept that is more difficult to grasp. And yet, for their faith to matter, I think teenagers have to come to grips with what sin is and what it does to the relationship between God and people. And they have to care about a world separated from God as a result of its sin. If we can help in leading students to see beyond a myopic, narrowly focused of their worlds, we can begin to show them how important faith truly is.

Certainly there are more aspects of helping our students live a faith that matters. But these were three essentials I think are in place in the lives of those teenagers whom I know care about their faith.

### **How would you answer the question?**

What concepts do you think are vital to students caring about their faith?

For more discussion and resources with faith formation in the home, please see Tina Ritchie or Pastors Lindsey or Robbie.

# YOUTH GROUP

## UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

Please RSVP on the youth bulletin board for most events.

All events require an updated PCC/MA form, which are located on the youth bulletin board next to the Jr. High youth room. Watch your weekly email and monthly newsletter for updated information.

To get on the youth email list, contact Tina Ritchie at [tina@ffpc.org](mailto:tina@ffpc.org) or text 810-701-4136.

Call if you need a ride to any event. Friends are welcome too...

## 2019 YOUTH SUMMER SCHEDULE

For all incoming 6th graders - graduating seniors and college friends

**Sat. 6/1:** End of School Party noon - 5pm at the Gibb's house

**Sun. 6/9:** Graduate Recognition Sunday 10am worship

**June 19-23:** Massanetta Middle School Conference

**Wed. 6/26:** Kayaking the Shiawassee 9am – 5pm Cost: \$25 for rental, & bring a sack lunch

**Sun. 6/30:** Backpack Shakedown - 11:15am in the Youth Room

**Wed. 7/3:** Campfire night & discussion 6 – 9pm place: TBD

**Wed. 7/10:** Wednesday Workday

**Wed. 7/17:** Lavender Labyrinth in Shelby MI day trip

**July 22-26 (M-F):** North Manitou Backpacking Trip (high schoolers)

**Sat. 7/27:** Habitat for Humanity 8:30am – 4:30pm

**Wed. 8/7:** Summer Lunch - 12pm-2:pm, location TBD

**Sun. 8/11:** Summer Recap – 10am Worship

**F-M August 16-19:** Camping at Hoeft St. Park Cost: \$50 RSVP by 8/11

## SUMMER TRIPS

There are openings for the backpacking trip. Please contact Tina Ritchie or Pastor Robbie for more information. We welcome your prayers for participants to grow closer to God by knowing Jesus.

## MASSANETTA MIDDLE SCHOOL CONFERENCE

(registration closed)

Theme: "At the Door" based on Matthew 7:7-12

Thursday, June 19 – Sunday, June 23

## NORTH MANITOU ISLAND BACKPACKING RETREAT (High School)

(3 spots open)

Monday, July 22 – Friday, July 26

Cost: \$150

## 4 EASY Ways You Can Help Make A Difference

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

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

**3** Register your Kroger Rewards Card

**4** Always appreciated: Chips, cookies, popcorn, juice & pop for the youth rooms

**5** Give to the Pentecost offering in May

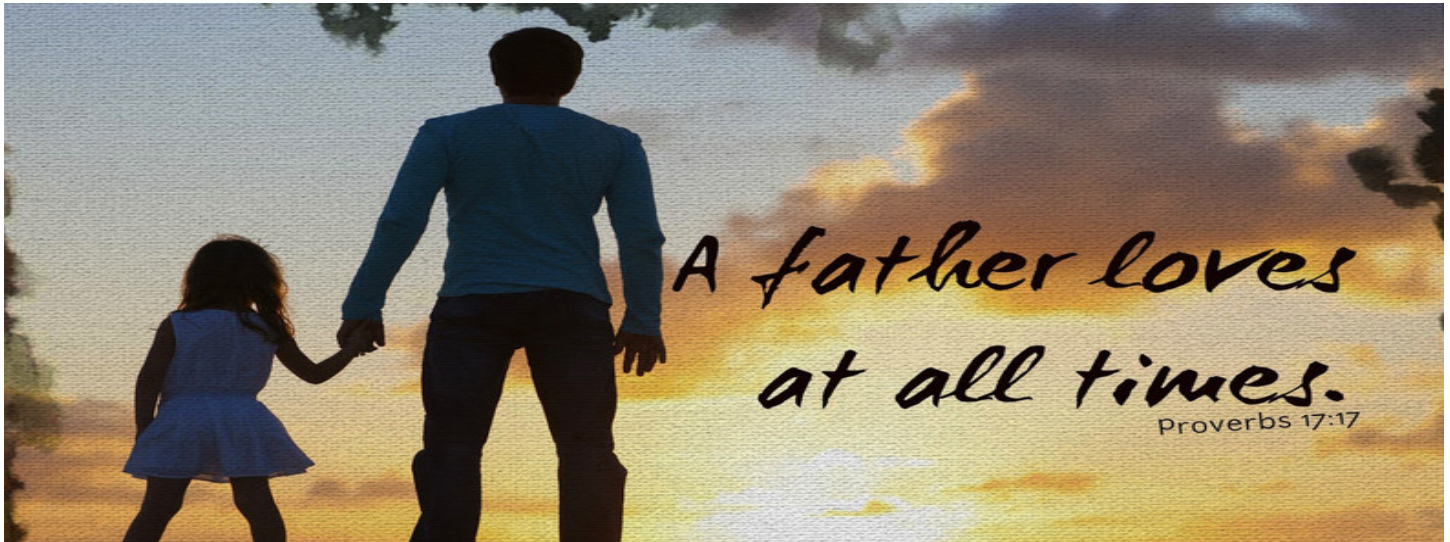
**6** Offer to sponsor a youth for camp or conferences



# CHILDREN S MINISTRY

## CLUB 45 FOR 4TH AND 5TH GRADERS AND FRIENDS

Our last event for the school year is on June 2 from 12:30-1:30 in the Art Room. We will be working on Father's Day Cards and crafts. Please see Cathy Hollopeter for more information.



## GOSPEL PROJECT SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR NURSERY CHILDREN THROUGH 5TH GRADE

Nursery and preschool, and kindergarten - 5th grade classes offered during 10am worship through the summer.

### “Into the Promised Land” topics are:

Unit 9 – The Cycle of Judges (Judges/Ruth)

6/2 Gideon

6/9 Samson

6/16 Ruth & Boaz

Big Picture Question: What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.

Unit Key Verse: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ~ 1 John 1:9

### “The Kingdom Provided” topics are:

Unit 10 – Samuel & King Saul (Samuel)

6/23 Hannah & Samuel 5/5 The Battle of Jericho

6/30 The Ark was captured

7/7 Israel's First King

Big Picture Question: Is there anything greater than God? No, God is greater than everything and everyone.

**Unit Key Verse:** *No one is like you, Lord; you are great, and your name is mighty in power.*

~ Jeremiah 10:6

# WORSHIP

## RECOGNIZING OUR CHOIR MEMBERS

Join us for Choir Recognition Sunday (youth & Adult) on June 2nd during 10am worship

### 2018-2019 FFPC Chancel Choir

Peg Allen	Paul Joitke
Donna Anderson	Cheryl Kopplin
Erin Bradley	Lisa Mehlberg
Bobby Clark	Patti Nelson
Cindy Crawford	Lee Ott
Peggy Fowler	Nancy Parkin
Peggy Fulcher	Amy Probyn
Mark Grams	Ed Schwarz
George Hameline	Gary Smith
Cathy Hollopeter	Bob Strom
Kelsy Hoerauf	Steve Sutton
Arden Irwin	Jerry Welch
Jesse James	John Wrage
Alex Joitke	

### 2018-2019 Celebration

Ringers  
Nancy Berger  
Peg Fowler  
Julie Hussar  
Lisa Mehlberg  
Carolyn Post  
Ellen Horton  
PJ Collier  
Cheryl Kopplin  
Cathy Hollopeter  
Jeanne Cupp

### 2018-2019 Lamplights and Illuminate Choirs

Gabe Bentley  
Annabeth Carnes  
Leah Carnes  
Zoey Nichols Cupp  
Madeline Gibb  
Makenzie Harp  
Payton Harp  
Maggie Hodgkin  
Emily Hollopeter  
Megan Hollopeter  
Matthew Maxwell  
Adlin Moore  
Izzy Moore  
Hali Sayre

**2018-2019 Special Music:** Bobby Clark, Gretchen Coles, Peggy Fowler, Peggy Fulcher, Morris Fulcher, Patti Nelson, Steve Sutton

**We are grateful for the following people who served as Sound Techs in the past year:** Morris Fulcher, Ina Golden, Mark Gibb, Mark Grams, Jay Kirke and Doug Watters

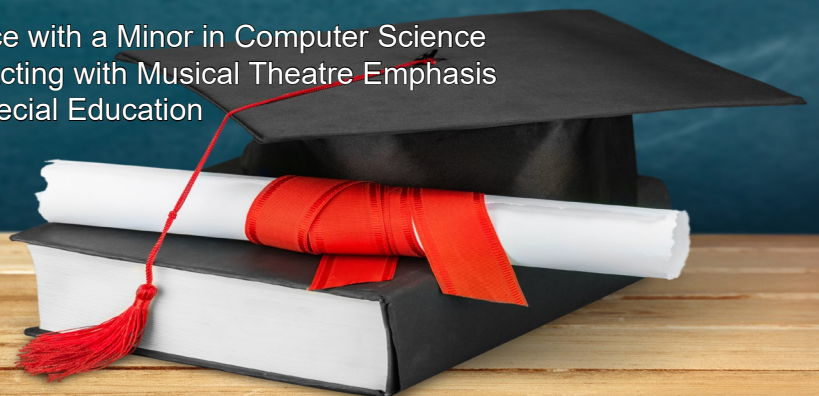
**Attention High School and College Graduates:** Graduate Recognition Sunday is June 9 during 10am worship. Wear your cap & gown and share your future plans; we would like to celebrate your achievements and pray with you as you begin a new journey in life! The Christian Education Committee has blankets for high school seniors and a Financial Peace University book Love Your Life, Not Theirs for college grads. May you feel God's presence with you always!

### High School Graduates:

Amber Danules – Hartland High School  
Aubrey Howieson – Lake Fenton High School  
Anna Janowak – Fenton High School  
Jacob Kinser – Fenton High School

### College Graduates:

Ann Fetzer – Olivet College BA Actuarial Science with a Minor in Computer Science  
Colin Hodgkin - Wright State University B.F.A. Acting with Musical Theatre Emphasis  
Olivia Kirkey – Alma College B.A. Education/Special Education  
Andrew Roberts - Alma College B.S, Marketing





# THE FRONT PEW

This ongoing article will try to answer questions about how we worship at FFPC. If you have a question you would like answered, please email Pastor Robbie (robbie@ffpc.org) or the Church Office (office@ffpc.org).



## What does the word Presbyterian Mean?

What a funny word that we use to describe our church. Presbyterian is way too difficult to spell and it doesn't conveniently fit onto the marquee in front of our church building. And if you are very creative you will find that mixing the letters of 'Presbyterians' up you can spell 'Britney Spears' among other things. If you have traveled any distance and visited a different church calling itself Presbyterian you may have found that there can be vast differences in worship styles and church culture. So what on earth does the word Presbyterian mean?

The word itself comes from the Greek word Presbuteros, meaning elder.

1 Peter 5:1-4 describes elders in the church as being leaders akin to shepherds. They are to be good examples and provide oversight to the congregations under God's direction.

Coming out of the Reformation circa 1500, the term Presbyterian came to describe church that governed themselves with a select group of elders as opposed to priests or other governance. Largely beginning in Britain and Scotland, this system of elders who were chosen to lead in a representational manner migrated to America and FFPC can claim its heritage from that stream.

When we speak of Presbyterians now, we may imagine a specific style of worship, church culture and even theological imperatives. As suggested above, while that may have been in the past, Presbyterianism largely describes a system of government rather than worship styles or theology beyond a few basic understandings.

Therefore we can find Presbyterians who enjoy congregational singing with organ accompaniment or a worship band and electric guitars. There has even been a small movement of Presbyterians (yes in our specific denomination) who speak in tongues during worship services. It is the system of governance that is the common denominator.

That and a few theological commitments that buttress the general understanding of Presbyterian church governance. While not exclusive, generally these boil down to two main ideas. The Sovereignty of God, which describes the main task of the ruling elders elected to Session as seeking the will of God for the church, and the teaching elders as interpreting the Word of God through preaching. And the priesthood of all believers, which maintains that all members of the church and believers in Christ should actively seek to grow in the knowledge of God and strive to serve God and others.

American Presbyterians, as a tradition, have split many times over the years, and according to Wikipedia there are over 25 separate denominations that describe themselves as Presbyterian ([https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Presbyterian\\_and\\_Reformed\\_denominations\\_in\\_North\\_America](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Presbyterian_and_Reformed_denominations_in_North_America)). These churches have different theological commitments and social leanings. They have various ways of worshiping from A Capella psaltry to electric guitars and fog machines. However they all have a system of governance that includes elders that oversee and lead the church.

**What are your questions about FFPC worship?**

# JUNE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**June 2nd, 7th Sunday of Easter,  
Communion Sunday**

**Recognition of Musical Gifts**

**Pastor Robbie Carnes**

**Practices for the Journey: Gathering at the Cross**

**Layreader:** Sue Lantz

**Ushers:** Team #1

**Sound Tech:** Mark Gibb

**Coffee Hour:** Blue Team

**Counters:** Lin Savage & Maureen Utt

**Nursery:** Ina Golden

**Gospel Project:** Pre-k Gretchen Coles  
K-2nd Ellen Horton & Jeanne Cupp  
3rd-5th Jan Foster & Roy Fetzer

**June 3rd, Outreach Communion 1:00pm**

**Who said Communion just happens on Sunday**

**mornings?** The next date is Monday, May 6th at 1:00pm in the Sanctuary. Join us for a shorter Communion service, filled with energetic hymn singing, a shortened version of the Sunday sermon, and the bread and juice/wine served in the pews. We're trying to make this a "barrier free" worship experience--with large print bulletins, amplified speaking, and helpers to assist with walkers, wheelchairs, or to just lend a hand. Come for worship, stay for fellowship around tables in the Fellowship Hall. For questions or rides, please call Dave Eshleman or the Church Office.

**June 9th, Pentecost, Graduate Recognition**

**Pastor Lindsey Carnes**

**The Holy Spirit Changes... Family**

**Layreader:** Sue Lantz

**Ushers:** Team #2

**Acolytes:** Mason & Bella Skaff

**Sound Tech:** Jay Kirkey

**Coffee Hour:** Red Team

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

**Nursery:** PJ Collier

**Gospel Project:** Pre-k Sarah Kasprzak  
K-2nd Ellen Horton & JDeb Bard  
3rd-5th Mary Zimble & Rick Bard

**June 16, Trinity Sunday**

**Preacher: Pastor Robbie Carnes**

**The Holy Spirit Changes... Marriage**

**Layreader:** Larry Zimble

**Ushers:** Team #3

**Acolytes:** Adlin & Bowen Moore

**Sound Tech:** Jay Kirkey

**Coffee Hour:** Orange Team

**Counters:** Shirley Israel and Sara Wrage

**Nursery:** PJ Collier

**Gospel Project:** Pre-K Sarah Kasprzak  
K-2nd Lynn Watters  
3rd-5th Janet Stork

**June 23, 2nd Sunday After Pentecost**

**Preacher: Pastor Lindsey Carnes**

**The Holy Spirit Changes... Conflict**

**Layreader:** Jenny Gibb

**Ushers:** Team #4

**Acolytes:** Sammy Carnes & Mason Davis

**Sound Tech:** Doug Watters

**Coffee Hour:** Yellow Team

**Counters:** Martha Smith & Sarah Martin-Fanone

**Nursery & Preschool:** Heidi Howieson

**Gospel Project:** TBD

**June 30th, 3rd Sunday After Pentecost**

**Pastor Robbie Carnes**

**The Holy Spirit Changes... Work**

**Layreader:** Larry Zimble

**Ushers:** Team #5

**Acolytes:** Deb Bard & Peg Fowler

**Sound Tech:** Mark Gibb

**Coffee Hour:** Green Team

**Counters:** Lin Savage & Ken Wensel

**Nursery & Preschool:** Heidi Howieson

**Gospel Project:** TBD





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Book Binders** will meet at the home of Connie Morrison, 16205 Silver Shore Dr. at 7:00 pm June 11th. We will be discussing the book In the Light of the Garden by Heather Burch. The book for July is The Confession by John Grisham. If you would care to join us or if you have any questions please call Connie at 750-2893 or call the church.

**Downtown Readers Book Club:** Meetings take place the last Tuesday of the month, at 11:00am in the Youth Room. The book for June is The Cherry Cola Book Club by Ashton Lee. Men and women are encouraged to join!

## BUILDING FUND REPORT

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)

#### As of April 30, 2019

Pledged	\$351,941
Received to date:	\$361,003

#### Building Fund

Building Account Balance:	\$31,488
Mortgage Remaining:	\$252,765

## TREASURER REPORT 2019 FINANCIALS

Profit/Loss	April	YTD Total
Income:	\$37,394.76	\$127,530.12
Expense:	<u>\$23,356.06</u>	<u>\$103,223.36</u>
Net Income:	\$14,038.70	\$24,306.76

#### Statement of Cash Flows

Cash at Beginning of Period:	\$81,032.11
Cash at End of Period:	<u>\$82,718.84</u>
Net Cash Increase:	\$1,686.73

The end of May will successfully complete our fourth capital fund building campaign with our mortgage balance being less than \$240,000 with at least the next 6 months of mortgage payments still in the account. Obviously, we still need to pay this debt off and we have opted to not conduct another capital campaign. Our monthly mortgage payment will be paid using (1) designated building fund contributions as they are received and, if needed to make the payment, (2) money from the operating budget. If more designated money is received than is needed to make the required mortgage payment, overpayments will be made to reduce interest costs and retire the mortgage as soon as we can.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dale Goss	Jun 3
Karen Terrill	Jun 3
Donna Anderson	Jun 4
Suzanne Carter	Jun 5
Kara Kinser	Jun 5
Jane Motta	Jun 7
Bill Black	Jun 8
Doug Hartwell	Jun 8
Al Thomas	Jun 9
Amy Probyn	Jun 12
John Wrage	Jun 14
Rachel Baker	Jun 15
Julie Grams	Jun 16
Colin Hodgkin	Jun 19
Matt Janowak	Jun 20
Jim Morris	Jun 20

Georgiann Tunningley	Jun 20
Joe Kryza	Jun 24
Richard Bard	Jun 25
Nora Kryza	Jun 28
JoAnn Beardslee	Jun 29
Richard Tunningley	Jun 30

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Michael Deborah Vanderlip	June 1
William & Adie Eddington	June 2
Robert & Joan McLive	June 2
Ernie & Linda Miller	June 5
Gene & Connie Morrison	June 6
Margie & Doug Congdon	June 7
Theodore & Sarah Kasprzak	June 9
Mike & Julie Hussar	June 13
Jay & Kate Kirkey	June 16

Matt & Jamie Janowak	June 19
Rick & Sherry Hunt	June 20
Larry & Jackie Arrol	June 21
Clark & Nancy Casteel	June 23
Joe & Nora Kryza	June 27
Jim & Suzanne Carter	June 28
Edward & Debbie Hoeglund	June 28
Marc & Kelsy Hoerauf	June 28
Chas & Cheryl Kopplin	June 28
Adam & Meredith Weldon	June 29
Bill & Betty Brandon	June 30

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed here please contact the church office do that we can update your information.

Thank you

# WAYS TO GIVE

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



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



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



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



**Non-Cash Giving:** Assets or Planned Gifts



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

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR MISSION!**

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