

Fenton First Presbyterian Church





HELLO & WELCOME

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

God designed the church for YOU – you belong here. Are you ready to experience a community of people doing life together? To find out, come worship with us on Sunday mornings.

Our Mission: To be a loving community of faith dedicated to helping people know Jesus Christ and grow, share, and serve as his disciples.

Our Vision: To provide an inviting and welcoming church home that attracts people of all ages and encourages positive growth, while creating an exciting and dynamic approach as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for worshipping with us! We are happy to welcome you into this household of God.

I love nurses.

They are the embodiment of compassion and healing care. To dedicate one's time to medical training and one's life to serve others in the medical field is a high calling. Almost all of us have been on the receiving end of a nurse's mercy, because their vocation is the backbone of our country's medical services.

I recall reading of a nurse at Hurley who worked overtime to tend to COVID patients and was living in a trailer across the parking lot so that he could be more available for on call shifts. I met an Emergency Room nurse at Genesys who, for 20 years, has volunteered to take the Christmas Eve shift so that other nurses could spend it with their families. I think of the medical people in my life and in our church who are quick to share their skills and help, because it is needed and they are able.

Recently I had an outpatient procedure done. As I woke up in the recovery room I felt the fog of the anesthesia slowly lift. I also realized that I didn't have my glasses and couldn't see to the end of my bed clearly. A figure in scrubs was filling out forms. A second figure came up along side. As my brain started turning gears I heard the two talking about weight loss tips and exercise. Among several things that I began saying was, "Anyone in scrubs is beautiful." The nurse responded, "Even that guy", pointing to a rather large male nurse walking down the hallway. "Everybody in scrubs is beautiful!"

I am glad I had anesthesia in my system. It is a great excuse when you say silly things.

However silly it was, I meant it. I have a profound gratitude for anyone in scrubs. As simple as the outfit is, in itself, it has come to mean caring, serving, and compassion. This reminds me of what the Apostle Paul says we should be dressed in as a Church of Jesus followers.

Colossians 3:12-15 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with a heart of mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if someone happens to have a complaint against anyone else. Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also forgive others. And to all these virtues add love, which is the perfect bond. Let the peace of Christ be in control in your heart (for you were in fact called as one body to this peace), and be thankful.

What would the world look like if church folks dressed themselves in such a way? What would the reputation of Christianity be? Clearly this is part of what Paul is thinking, but it is also about how we might treat each other and go about our daily lives.

During this season of thanksgiving and holiday celebration, consider how you might put on the 'spiritual scrubs' of the virtues that Paul describes. How might this affect family gatherings? Political discussions? Neighborhood interactions?

Everyone who dresses in compassion and mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness and the like are beautiful. Not only because these are attractive traits, but because they make you look like Jesus!

WORSHIP

How to Worship with Us

Join us online as well as in person Sunday's at 10am

Masks are optional. Paper masks will remain available for those who might need one, and hand sanitizer stations are available throughout the building. **If you feel ill or have been exposed, be considerate and stay home.**

Here is how to join us Online

Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/fentonfpc>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkBa-DrcqSECxjAyeaiC4bg>

Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8309142301?pwd=RHJ4dDBPdEhMN25yKzFzSzZNeUVPQT09>

Use the Zoom app and use this Meeting ID

Meeting ID: 830 914 2301 **Meeting Password:** 5013

Use your telephone line to listen in:

Call +19292056099 and dial 8309142301# at the prompt US (New York)

Or Call +13126266799 and dial 8309142301# at the prompt US (Chicago)

November Worship Schedule

As we are plunged into a chilly Fall we will finish our series in Revelation and look forward to the season of Advent. Starved for joy and fellowship, we might be tempted to overschedule and be under-present. This advent we encourage you to hurry up and slow down. Be presence with who you are with and enjoy the wonder of God made flesh. As you prepare for the holiday of your dreams, remember that finding peace, real peace, is not in the satisfaction of our senses, but the comfort of our hearts that only God can supply.

November 6th, Pledge Dedication Sunday and Communion, Daylight Savings Ends,
Lindsey Carnes Preaching on Revelation

November 13th, Veterans Day, Congregational Meeting, Peg Fowler Preaching on Revelation

November 20th, Christ the King Sunday, Hanging of the Greens, "The Messiah King"
Robbie Carnes preaching

November 27th, First Sunday in Advent, Thanksgiving weekend, "The Christmas You Long for"
Lindsey Carnes preaching.

We would like to give a HUGE thank you to Michelle Carter for ALL her incredibly beautiful flower arrangements this summer and fall. We are truly blessed by your gift.

ADVENT

Exodus 23: ¹⁰ “Six years you shall sow your land and gather in its yield, ¹¹ but the seventh year you shall let it rest and lie fallow so that the poor of your people may eat, and what they leave the wild animals may eat. You shall do the same with your vineyard and with your olive orchard.

¹² “Six days you shall do your work, but on the seventh day you shall rest so that your ox and your donkey may have relief and your homeborn slave and the resident alien may be refreshed. ¹³ Be attentive to all that I have said to you. Do not invoke the names of other gods; do not let them be heard on your lips.”

The Worship Committee has decided to do something new with the Advent Devotional in 2022. For many years we have solicited daily devotion from the congregation and have benefited from each's reflections on the season and on God's goodness to us. This year we are feeling the need to 'rest and lie fallow'. Therefore, using the theme "Less is More", we will be engaging together in a different kind of devotional.

There are two parts. The first is a booklet that guides you through each week of Advent with different meditations and thoughts for the week. Your household is invited to use the traditional advent candles and wreath to create a moment of reflection and holy conversation. If you live alone, consider joining with another household or other individuals to make the experience more rich.

The second part is a poster that offers simple daily activities designed to encourage being present in the moment. Think of it as daily challenges to focus your heart on the incarnation of God and to be present to God's salvation in our lives.

All of these materials will be available online and in the church office.

Advent Worship Schedule

November 20th, Hanging of the Greens

November 23rd, Thanksgiving Online Music Moment, 12pm

November 27th, 1st Sunday in Advent "The Christmas You Long For", Duo Concert, 4pm

December 3rd, Live Nativity in the Courtyard (3:00pm-5:30pm), Starry Night CE Event

December 4th, 2nd Sunday in Advent "Untangle: Finding Peace in Our Hurried State"

Carol Concert, 4:00pm, Triple C after church

December 11th, 3rd Sunday of Advent, "Cynicism & Wonder", Guest Orchestra in Worship

Christmas Choir Concert at Tyrone Covenant, 7:00pm

December 18th, 4th Sunday of Advent "Presents of Presence?", Lessons and Carols

Concert 3pm, Youth Christmas Party, 12pm-3pm

December 24th, Christmas Eve, 7pm Cresche Service, 11:30 Bells and Candle Service

December 25th, Sunday Christmas Day, Service of Carols, 3pm

December 26th-27th, Church Office is Closed

MUSIC MINISTRY



Thanksgiving music moment
Wednesday, November 23 at noon
JOIN US ON FACEBOOK LIVE AND ZOOM FOR A BRIEF TIME OF THANKSGIVING MUSIC AND PRAYER

Fenton First Presbyterian Church
503 South Leroy Street | Fenton, MI 48430



A Fenton First Presbyterian Church Concert Series Event
DUO CONCERT
Christmas Edition
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27 AT 4PM
JOIN US FOR AN HOUR OF ALL PIANO AND ORGAN CHRISTMAS DUETS!
Presented by:
DR. ROSE STEVENS, FREEMAN TUCKER & REBEKAH RATZA

HOSTED AT FENTON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
503 SOUTH LEROY STREET | FENTON, MI 48430



Join us for an afternoon of Christmas cheer!

CAROLS
COFFEE
CHOIRS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022 AT 4PM
Handbells, Chancel Choir, and an opportunity to lend your voice in congregational carol singing! Stay afterward for coffee and fellowship!
Hosted at Fenton First Presbyterian Church
503 South Leroy Street | Fenton, MI 48430

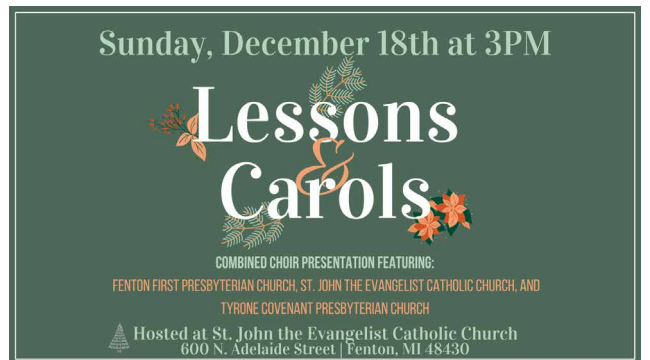


Guest Orchestra
Christmas Presentation
Sunday, December 11, 2022
During the 10AM worship service

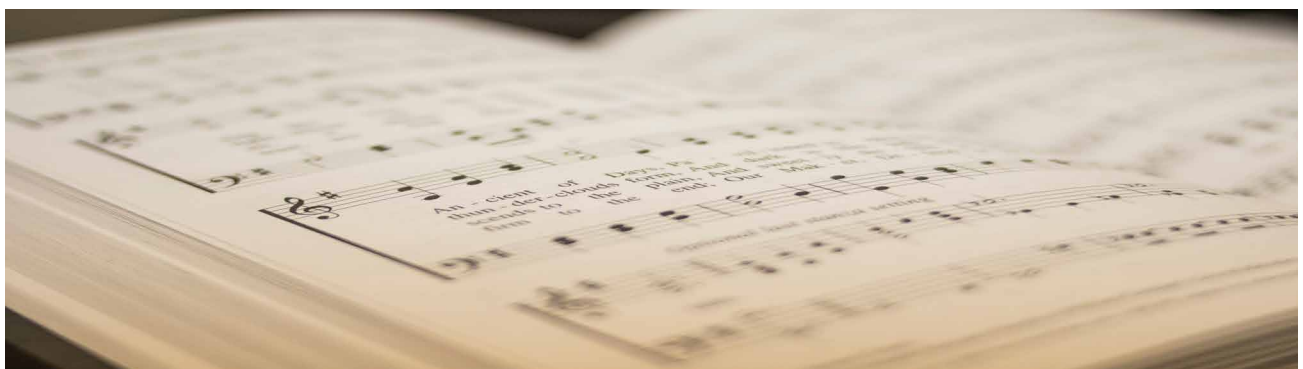
Fenton First Presbyterian Church
503 South Leroy Street | Fenton, MI 48430



CHRISTMAS CHOIR CONCERT
Presented by the Tyrone Covenant and Fenton First Presbyterian Music Teams
★ **Sunday, December 11, 2022 at 7PM** ★
★ Hosted at Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church ★
10235 White Lake Road | Fenton, MI 48430

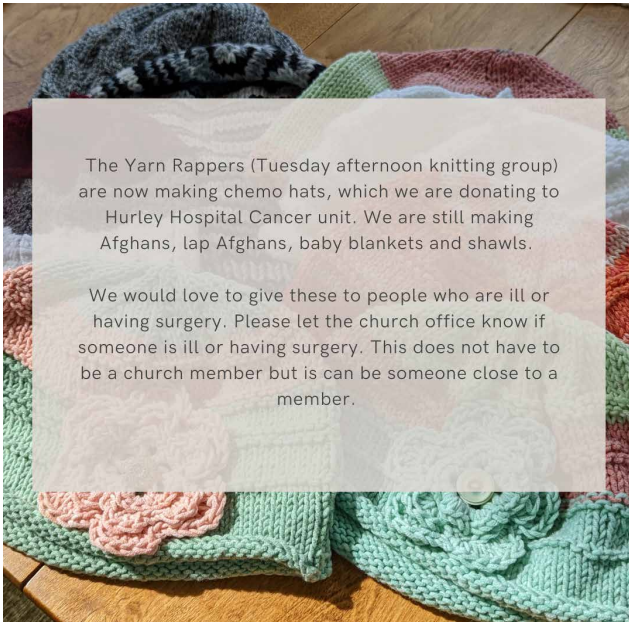


Sunday, December 18th at 3PM
Lessons and Carols
COMBINED CHOIR PRESENTATION FEATURING:
FENTON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH, AND TYRONE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Hosted at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
600 N. Adelaide Street | Fenton, MI 48430



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

The Congregational Outreach Committee (even though we are a small group) has been busy working to bring back some events to involve the congregation and community. Please note that we would welcome you to join us. If you are interested on serving on the committee, please contact Marilee Smiley (mibobalink@gmail.com).



The Yarn Rappers (Tuesday afternoon knitting group) are now making chemo hats, which we are donating to Hurley Hospital Cancer unit. We are still making Afghans, lap Afghans, baby blankets and shawls.

We would love to give these to people who are ill or having surgery. Please let the church office know if someone is ill or having surgery. This does not have to be a church member but is can be someone close to a member.



Coffee time:
We need YOUR HELP!

DO YOU LIKE...
Having coffee after Worship on Sunday?
Having a treat with your coffee?

If you enjoy this then we need your help.
Please sign up on the sheet when you get your coffee or email Marilee Smiley (mibobalink@gmail.com)



FENTON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER

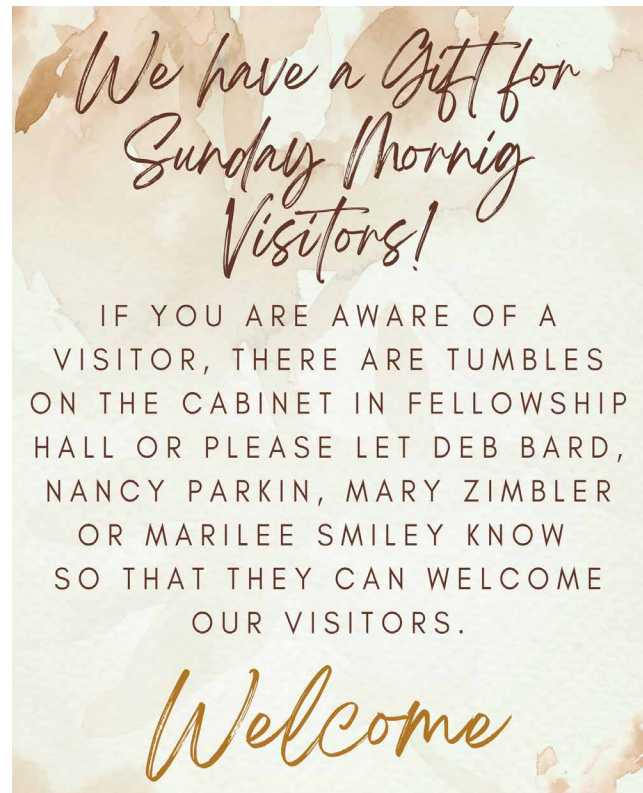
SAT 12TH NOV 503 S. Leroy Fenton

DOORS OPEN 5:30PM
GRACE 5:45PM

TICKETS
Adults \$12 | Seniors \$10 | Kids 10 and under \$5

Call to Reserve Your Spot!
TO GO dinners are available.

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE
to reserve your spoty for more information
810-629-7801 or visit us at www.flpc.org



We have a Gift for Sunday Mornig Visitors!

IF YOU ARE AWARE OF A VISITOR, THERE ARE TUMBLES ON THE CABINET IN FELLOWSHIP HALL OR PLEASE LET DEB BARD, NANCY PARKIN, MARY ZIMBLER OR MARILEE SMILEY KNOW SO THAT THEY CAN WELCOME OUR VISITORS.

Welcome

STEWARDSHIP

Financial Review - September, 2022

Profit/ Loss	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Jan-Sept.</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Income:	\$17,496.30	\$26,429.36	\$301,684.99	\$237,864.24	\$317,152.70
Expense:	<u>\$24,808.15</u> (7,338.85)*	<u>\$25,619.67</u> 809.69	<u>\$276,879.01</u> 24,805.98*	<u>\$240,292.03</u> (2,427.79)	<u>\$317,152.70</u>

*This does not include additional obligations such as restricted funds or other payments such as: Board of Deacons, Faith & Femininity, Organ Fund, HVAC Fund, etc.

Statement of Cash Flows

	Aug	YTD
Cash at Beginning of period:	\$53,323.94	\$125,208.38
Cash at End of Period:	<u>\$42,904.90</u>	<u>\$42,904.90</u>
Net Cash:	(10,419.04)	(82,303.48)

Balance in the Building Repair & Improvement account as of September 30th: \$1,627.49

Respectfully Submitted, October 10, 2022

Debera J Bard, Treasurer



FFPC Members and Friends

The practice of generosity is a faith discipline. Growing in generosity is the mark of a developing faith and deeper walk with Christ. I am excited about FFPC because I believe that its members are committed to being genuine disciples of Christ. I want to be involved with something that really matters in this community. As a congregation, we are seeking to be fed spiritually, and to actively engage the world where its deepest needs meet our abilities, and with God's help, to make a difference for the good of everyone.

Our Stewardship Campaign theme this year, "Fling Wide Your Hearts", gets to the heart of the issue. This is a reference to the hymn Lift up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates.

In the next few weeks, you will be hearing more about how we as a congregation are seeking to grow and respond to God. As you know, that will require our investment with both our spiritual and financial gifts. **Each one of our contributions makes a difference!**

DEACONS

The ministry of Deacons as set forth in scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service. We share in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, hungry, sick, lost, friendless, oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies of structure, or anyone else in distress.



*How Can We Pray
For You?*

*Prayer requests and updates
can be sent to Nancy Parkin
by phone at 810-241-6497
or by email at
prayerchain@ffpc.org*



Grieving? GRIEF SHARE
SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS
Know someone who is?

When you are grieving a loved one's death, the holiday season can be especially painful. Our **Surviving the Holidays** seminar helps participants discover:

- How to deal with emotions
- What to do about traditions
- Helpful tips for surviving social events
- How to find hope for the future

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS


Please join us for this encouraging seminar.

Sign-up in Fellowship Hall
Sunday November 6th & 13th
from 11:30am-1:00pm
Contact Hannah Hall for more information



Helping Hands If you are shut-in and need some help, think about calling the church. The Deacons' Helping Hands program may be just what you need.

If you need someone to run an errand or pick up groceries or a prescription, maybe we can help. Call the church office at 810-629-7801 and leave your name, contact number and your need. We will always wear a mask and leave any deliveries at your doorstep.



**Deacon's
Christmas
Project Coming
Soon**

MISSION



Food Bank Mission Opportunity

Saturday, November 12th from 9am-12pm

All those interested in taking part in helping feed the food deprived, please sign-up in Fellowship Hall.

Those wishing to share a ride are asked to meet at the church at 8:15am. We will depart for the Food Bank at 8:30am. Questions? Please call Ken Wensel at 810-513-1340. Thank you to all who choose to participate.



Now Taking Equal Exchange Orders!!

Why do we order from Equal Exchange? The support we give helps these small farmers and their families by providing housing, food and education. We are going out and doing Mission Work without leaving our church.

Orders will be taken October 2nd through October 31st. Forms are available in Fellowship Hall.

Contact Kelly Sunman-Davis by email at office@ffpc.org or by phone at 810-629-7801 for more information.

WE NEED YOUR HELP & YOUR VOICE!!!!



The first refugee FFPC helped 4 years ago is sadly still waiting for the approval for his son (now 6) to come to the US. He has complied with 2 DNA tests to prove his son

is his and is again being asked to submit to a DNA test. The Refugee Welcome Team is asking for the following to help him:

1. Contact your representative and Senator to express frustration that this man has waited 4 years for his son to join him. For his name and other details, contact Sarah Martin-Fanone.

2. Monetary donations are needed to help with travel expenses and lost wages while he visits his family for the first time. Old cell phones would be much appreciated too as he is expected to bring gifts, and old cell phones are perfect.

November

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



YOUTH GROUP

CREATING SPACE FOR YOUTH TO ASK QUESTIONS, ENCOUNTER GOD, AND LEARN TO LIVE AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

Allow, Meet, and Go!



Fall Youth Group Events - for 6 - 12 graders and friends

Most meetings are Sundays right after church or from 5-7PM unless noted. College friends are welcome to join us for events if you happen to be home. Friends always welcome with a current Parental Consent form on file! Adults seeking to be part of the program are asked to contact Tina Ritchie.

October

30th Pumpkin carving contest noon – 2pm, youth room
Bring a pumpkin and carving tools – lunch, treats, and games provided!

November

6th Youth Group Soup & Talk 5-7pm at the MacLean home
***Sat 12** Turkey Dinner help - time TBD
20th Hanging of the Greens 11:30am – 1:00pm
27th No meeting

December

4th Triple C – cookies, cards & crafts 12:00pm–2pm
11th Youth Group Soup & Talk 5-7pm, Location: TBD
18th Christmas Party 12:00pm–3pm
25th Merry Christmas - no meeting

January

1st Happy New Year - no meeting
7th-8th New Year's Lock-in

Ways to support Youth Group scholarships and activities:

Bottle returns - drop off your rinsed returnable bottles and cans to the youth room.

Kroger Rewards - Linking your Kroger Rewards card to FFPC earns us quarterly benefits. Contact the office if you need info on how to do this!

VG's receipts - We are \$30,000 short in receipts to receive a \$1000 check.

CHILDREN & FAMILY

Sunday School for children ages kindergarten through 5th grade

Sunday school begins at 10am in the lower level Christian Education classrooms wing. Children join worship after the sermon where they either sit with their parents or with Miss Tina; masks are optional at their parent's discretion. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tina Ritchie or Kate Kirkey.

"ANation Divided" topics:

Unit 15 – The Southern Kingdom of Judah
(2 Chronicles, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Habakkuk)

God called Jeremiah to tell the people about a new covenant in which sin can be forgiven once and for all. Judah continued in sin and was removed from the land. God was right to punish God's people for their sin, but God kept God's promise to provide a king through David's family. Ultimately, God punished our sin through Jesus and made Him our King forever.

10/30 Habakkuk the Prophet

11/6 Judah Taken Captive

11/13 Ezekiel Gave Hope

Big Picture Question: How did God plan to fix what sin broke? Before God created the world, God planned to send the Messiah to save us from our sins.

Unit Key Verse: *If my people who belong to me will humbly pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land. ~ 2 Chronicles 7:14*

"A People Restored" topics:

Unit 16 – Hope in Exile (Daniel, Matthew 1, Luke 2)

After years of living in sin, God's people were sent into exile. The Southern Kingdom of Judah was captured by Babylon. Daniel's visions of the future showed that God is in control at all times. God used faithful people to continue God's plan to provide salvation through Jesus.

11/20 The Fiery Furnace

11/27 Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

12/4 Daniel in the Lion's Den

12/11 Daniel's Dream

Big Picture Question: Why do we pray? We pray because we trust God, and we know God hears us.

Unit Key Verse: *Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

November Teachers:

Elementary Teacher:

Janet Stork

Preschool/Nursery Teacher:

PJ Collier & Tina Ritchie

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join the New Saturday Facilities Work Group!

The long standing Wednesday work group has expanded in order to complete additional projects as well as provide those interested, who may not be available on Wednesdays, an opportunity to take part. This group meets once a month on the third Saturday at 9am.

Help Needed for Live Nativity and Warming Station during Jinglefest

3-5:30pm Saturday, December 3rd in the Courtyard of First Presbyterian Church

Come and be a part of God's Story! Take in the scene; experience the awe and wonder as church members re-create the story, along with live animals.

Children passing by will have the opportunity to dress up as an angel, shepherd, or magi and have their picture taken in front of the nativity.

Fellowship Hall will serve as a warming station for the community serving coffee and hot cocoa and offering 2 family craft activities.

Helpers needed to dress up as nativity characters and serve as indoor helpers. Please see the sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall, Deb bard, or Tina Ritchie.

After Thanksgiving, look for the "Giving Tree"

located in the New Narthex. This tree is sponsored by the Book Binders.

Suggested items are mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, underwear, socks, pajamas. All items are children's sizes up to size 16-18. Thank you for your KINDNESS.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service Event 2022

In the past, the Fenton Area Clergy Association has organized an ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship Service. It has been discerned that this year is the moment to try something new. An Ecumenical Community Service Project has been planned and there are two parts to this effort.

Our Congregation is invited to make 'Cold Weather Kits' for Carriage Town Ministries. Drop off brand new or nearly new gloves, hats and scarves in the Carriage Town Box at the church office before November 18 th . These items will be made into kits and delivered to Carriage Town.

A Community Gathering has been planned for November 20th , 4pm, at the Fenton United Methodist Church. We will meet in the Family Life Center and package the kits, pray for those receiving them and enjoy Christian Fellowship. This is a family friendly event in which everyone can participate.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Kate Kirkey	Nov 1
Chris Anderson	Nov 3
Kelsy Hoerauf	Nov 6
Cathy Hollopeter	Nov 6
Nancy Casteel	Nov 7
Cheryl Sharpe	Nov 8
Joy Thompson	Nov 9
Erin Bradley	Nov 10
Joan McLive	Nov 10
Jonathan Wenzel	Nov 10
Chas Kopplin	Nov 12
Annabeth Carnes	Nov 14
Larry McMellen	Nov 14
Michael Cupp	Nov 15
Amy Fetzer	Nov 17
Spencer Sutherby	Nov 19
Shirley Walker	Nov 23
Sara Wrage	Nov 23
Maggie Sheppard	Nov 24
Lee Black	Nov 25
Thomas Allen	Nov 26
Jerry Hope	Nov 28
Lorraine Eshleman	Nov 30

ANNIVERSARIES

Ron & Pam Andersen	November 12
Dan & Ellen Horton	November 17
Chris & Donna Anderson	November 26
Keith & Denise Morris	November 29

*P*oinsettia Time Is Fast Approaching!

All poinsettias are \$18.50 each. Order forms will be available beginning November 1st. Make checks payable to the First Presbyterian Church Fenton. The form and check must be returned to the church office no later than November 28th, 2022.



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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503 S. LEROY STREET
FENTON, MI 48430-1736