



The First Epistle

Worship, Serve, Grow
November 2025



Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church

510 W. Ottawa St., Lansing, MI 48933

Office phone: 517-482-0668

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Website: <http://lansingfirstpres.com>

Office hours: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LansingFirstPresbyterian>

COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED ON NOVEMBER 2nd

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – Sunday, November 2nd

Join us as we celebrate Holy Communion and remember those persons who have entered the Heavenly beyond.

HOLIDAY BASKET PACKING

Holiday baskets (Thanksgiving and Christmas) will be packed by the congregation, after the Worship Service, on:

Sunday, **November 2** (Thanksgiving) and Sunday, **November 30** (Christmas).

CHRIST THE KING – Sunday, November 23rd

Brass, Timpani & Choir as we celebrate Christ the King!



DECORATE FOR CHRISTMAS – Sunday, November 23rd

Help “Deck the Halls” as we prepare our church for the upcoming holiday! Decorating will begin after our Worship Service. It’s simple – go to an area of the church and start decorating with the decorations supplied! Hot Chocolate and Cookies will be served.



ELEVATOR OUT OF SERVICE IN NOVEMBER



Please note that the church elevator will continue to be unavailable for part of November due to renovations. These improvements will enhance safety and reliability. If your group relies on elevator access, please contact the office at churchadmin@lansingfirstpres.org to adjust your plans, if needed.

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NOTE FROM PR. BARB EDEMA

Dear Friends,

How are you doing? We've had a month to worship and work together in this transition time. November will be another busy month. We will celebrate All Saints' Day on November 2nd and remember those who have been healed into eternal life this past year.

November 2nd is also when daylight saving time ends, don't forget to set your clocks back 😊

Holiday boxes will be packed following worship on November 2nd and 30th. Please plan to stay and help with this fun and important project for our community.

At the end of the month, we have two important Sundays. On November 23rd, we will celebrate The Reign of Christ Sunday and we will enjoy the "Hanging of the Greens" following worship. Please join us as we "dress the church" for the holiday season. November 30th is the first Sunday of Advent.

So, how are you? I remember a time in my life when I was working through a difficult issue. My mother called me one day and I said, "Hi mom, how are you?" She quickly replied, "I'll know how I am when I know how you are."

I feel the same way about you as a congregation. I'll know how I'm doing when I know how you are doing. Please feel free to call me (616) 780-1105, or email

barbara.edema@gmail.com with your thoughts. Or stop into the office for a chat!

It is a privilege to be your Stated Supply Pastor, and I thank God for this brief time we have together.

Peace and joy,

Pastor Barb

JOIN OUR E-MAIL LIST!

Your Communications Committee, along with the wonderful guidance of our Church

Administrator, Annika, has started a Weekly E-Newsletter!

This includes links to bulletins/hymns, First Epistles, Announcements, Food Bank Needs, Weekly Prayer, Bible Studies, etc.

Make sure you are receiving this weekly email!



Join Our Email List!

- Keep up to date with our Weekly E-Newsletter
- Receive prayer requests
- Connect with your church family throughout the week

Email: churchadmin@lansingfirstpres.org



BOOMERS & BEYOND – Wednesday, November 19, Noon.

Meet us in the Parlor Wednesday, November 19th for lunch. Let us know if you need transportation and we will try to arrange it if possible. If any of our regular attendees can pick up anyone please reach out to others or let us know. We look forward to our next time together. Kathe Smith, 517-230-1814, and Bev Phillips, 517-927-8367.

TLC – Thursday, November 20, 1:00 p.m.

In November, TLC will meet on Thursday, November 20th at 1:00 PM. We will be going to Leo's Coney Island. It is located at 2520 E. Jolly Rd. in Lansing.

TLC is a group for elder men & women in the church who enjoy fellowship and good food. Please call Judy Hartgerink (517-484-5177) for reservations or information. We would love to have you join us!

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

We welcomed new members during our Reformation Sunday Worship Service (October 26).

Sherrie Loader has been a ringer with Bells of First since 2020. She has offered her expertise as an auditor for Emergency Management & Homeland Security with the Michigan State Police through Adult Forums. Sherrie is joining our membership through

transfer from Church of the Redeemer. Besides ringing handbells and educating folx on emergency preparedness, Sherri is a mom and grandma!

Sisters, **Rachel Lutes** and **Sarah Lutes** are joining our membership though transfer from North Carolina. Rachel has been volunteering with the AV/Sound Team for Sunday morning worship services. Sarah has been singing with the Chancel Choir on Sunday mornings. We have been grateful for their participation in grounds clean-up (pulling weeds) and delightful conversations during fellowship.

(photo of Rachel Lutes, Sarah Lutes & Sherrie Loader – taken by Alyse Collins)



Session Notes

The Session convened on Wednesday, October 15 with Rev. Charles Herrick as moderator.

1. The church will welcome in November three new members by letter of transfer from other churches, Rachel Lutes, Sarah Lutes and Sherrie Loader.
2. Mike Bryan, chair of the Emergency Preparedness Committee, presented recommendations regarding church safety for the Building and Grounds Committee to consider. Security measures for the church discussed were locking doors at specific times, implementing greeters, and installing security cameras.
3. The Nominating Committee made a motion to appoint a committee to review the bylaws and to specifically consider amending the bylaws to reduce the number of Deacons considering our smaller congregation. The motion carried and the bylaws committee will be Bill Collins, Darla Jackson and Erin Schor.
4. The Interim Pastoral Nominating Committee is working on the church profile and interim pastoral position description. The committee expects to start interviewing candidates in late January.

5. The Worship Committee met with Pastor Barb and discussed changes to the worship service.
6. The Membership Committee is having coffee hour in the parlor kitchen during October. The Committee proposed a Coffee Hour Committee be formed to take over the duties of coffee hour.
7. The **Annual Congregational meeting will be held on February 22, 2026**. The installation of new elders and deacons will be held in early January.
8. The State Grant work continues with work being done in the kitchen, the new elevator installation and solar panels installation (date not yet scheduled).
9. The Session is working diligently with staff during this time of transition in the church. The Clerk, Carol Wallace, can be contacted for concerns about the church

ROLES OF THE CHURCH: DEFINED

The Church's ordered ministries described in the New Testament and maintained by this church are **deacons** and **presbyters** (***ministers of the Word and Sacrament and ruling elders***). Ordered ministries are gifts to the church to order its life so that the ministry of the whole people of God may flourish. **The existence of these ordered ministries in no way diminishes the importance of the commitment of all members to the total ministry of the church.**

Deacon Defined

The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress.

Ruling Elder Defined

Ruling elders are so named not because they "lord it over" the congregation (Matt. 20:25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Ruling elders, together with ministers of the Word and Sacrament, exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships.

Minister of the Word and Sacrament Defined

Ministers of the Word and Sacrament (also called teaching elders and pastors) shall in all things be committed to teaching the faith in word and deed and equipping

the saints for the work of ministry (Eph. 4:12). They may serve in a variety of ministries, as authorized by the presbytery. When they serve as preachers and teachers of the Word, they shall preach and teach the faith of the church, so that the people are shaped by the pattern of the gospel and strengthened for witness and service. When they serve at font and table, they shall interpret and “show forth” the mysteries of grace in word and action, lifting the people’s vision toward the hope of God’s new creation. When they serve as pastors, they shall support the people in the disciplines of the faith amid the struggles of daily life. When they serve as presbyters, they shall participate in the responsibilities of governance, seeking always to discern the mind of Christ and to build up Christ’s body through devotion, debate, and decision.

Book of Order 2025/27

Top Ten Responsibilities of Session

- **Evangelism:** Inviting people into the new life in Christ and receiving them into membership when they are ready to join.
- **Mission and Justice:** Leading the congregation in participation in the mission of the whole Church in the world.
- **Education and Care:** Providing for the education, ordination, mission, and care of members.
- **Financial Stewardship:** Overseeing financial stewardship and church property.
- **Discipline:** Maintaining discipline within the congregation.
- **Worship:** Providing that the Word of God be preached and heard, primarily through worship.
- **Sacraments:** Authorizing the celebration of the sacraments.
- **Membership:** Receiving and dismissing members.
- **Budget and Distribution:** Preparing and adopting a budget and determining the distribution of the congregation’s benevolences.
- **Community Engagement:** Leading the congregation in ministries of personal and social healing and reconciliation in the communities in which the church lives and bears its witness.

Responsibilities of Deacons

Deacons may be individually commissioned or organized as a board of deacons. In either case, their ministry is under the supervision and authority of the session. Deacons may also be given special assignments in the congregation, such as caring for members in need, handling educational tasks, cultivating liberality in giving, collecting and disbursing monies to specific persons or causes, or overseeing the buildings and

property of the congregation. Deacons shall assume other duties as may be delegated to them by the session, including assisting with the Lord's Supper.

Responsibilities of a Presbyterian Member

Presbyterian members have several responsibilities, including participating in the worship and life of the church, participation in the mission and justice of the church, and being involved in the financial stewardship and church property. They are also expected to witness their faith in word and deed, inviting others into the new life in Christ, and leading the congregation in participation in the mission of the whole Church in the world.

Besides attending worship, please think of your gifts and join a committee, participate in a program, and be part of our community of fellowship. YOU are welcome here!

Liturgists in November:

Nov 2 – Gwen Botting
Nov 9 – Mike Carey
Nov 16 – Steve Warnaar
Nov 23 – Joe Ross
Nov 30 – Geoff Blair

Prayer Leaders in November:

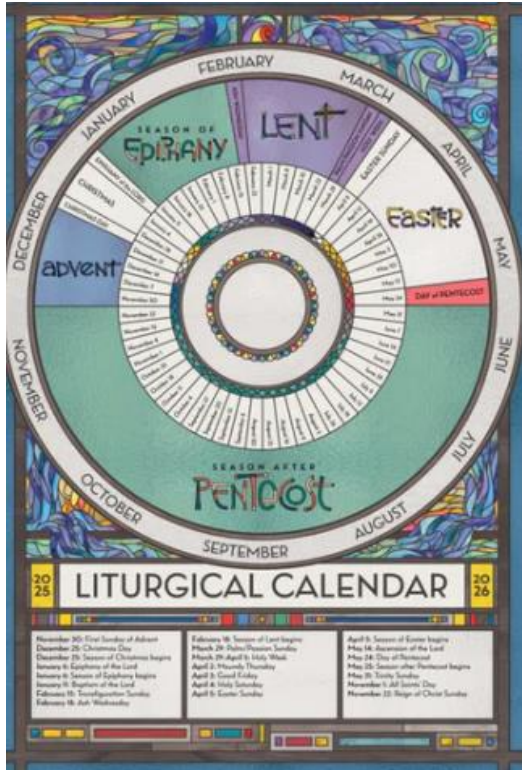
Nov 2 – Rev. Barb Edema
Nov 9 – Betsy Sneller
Nov 16 – George Bennett
Nov 23 – Sherri DeMarco
Nov 30 – Gwen Botting

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.” — Psalm 100:4

Enter with gratitude, leave with peace.

Worship Corner

Colors of the Church Calendar Year 2025



The colors we use in our Sanctuary mark the different seasons of church life.

Each color carries a special meaning:

- **Purple** – *Advent and Lent*
- **White** – *Holy Days such as Christmas, Easter, and Communion*
- **Green** – *Common or Growing Season*
- **Red** – *Pentecost*

In **November**, we honor **All Saints' Day (November 2)** with **white** paraments, and later celebrate **Christ the King Sunday (November 23)**—the end of the church calendar year—with **white** and *all* our liturgical colors, rejoicing in Jesus' victory over all evil in the world.

Between these observances, our paraments will be **green**, representing *Growing Time*!

Soon it will be **Advent**, the beginning of the church year, when our Sanctuary will be dressed in **purple** and adorned with **evergreens**—symbols of the everlasting life Jesus came to give us. (You can find the Liturgical Calendar Color Wheel Poster outside of Megan's Office)

Christ the King (Reign of Christ) Sunday

Sunday, November 23

On this special day, we celebrate the reign of Christ as King of the Universe and rejoice in God's amazing love and care for each one of us.

Worship will feature **special music** by our **brass quintet, organ, and timpani**, with a **procession worthy of the occasion!**

Join us as we close the church year with **joy and thanksgiving!**

Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, November 23 – after Worship



After worship, we invite everyone to help **decorate the church for Advent!**

Come downstairs, choose a labeled box, and decorate the area indicated.

Judy Whitman and **Gwen Botting** will be there to help guide you and distribute supplies.

We've been told there will be *extra cookies* at coffee hour as a sweet reward for your efforts!

As always, many hands make light work!

Help us prepare our church to be a welcoming, beautiful space as we await the coming of the Christ Child this Christmas Eve.

Advent Begins in November!

Sunday, November 30

Choral Sunday! Join us while we bring in the season of Advent through song.

If you and/or your family would like to serve as **Advent readers or candle lighters** during worship in Advent or on Christmas Eve, please contact **Gwen Botting** to sign up:

☎ **616-755-2221** (text is fine)

✉ **gwenbotting9496@gmail.com**

We welcome and celebrate diversity in our readers—thank you for helping make this season bright and meaningful for all!

- Gwen Botting, Chair of Worship Committee

Audio Video System Updates

Our church technology updates have followed us to regular worship in the sanctuary this fall. We now have video screens at each side of the front of the sanctuary to display slides for readings, responses, and hymns, as well as closed captions for sermons and prayers. The captions, in particular, have proven very helpful to many attendees.

Much of the PA system has been overhauled, though we are still waiting for installation of a new sanctuary loudspeaker. So we anticipate yet more improvement in hearing the spoken word. Meanwhile, we have new hearing-assistance devices that perform more clearly than the old ones. The new devices allow regular ear buds to plug in, or the use of a neck loop for users of hearing aids that have a “T” (T-coil or Telecoil) setting. Also the new hearing assistance system will stream to bluetooth-enabled hearing aids using the WaveCAST smartphone app. Please see an usher for an instruction sheet if you are interested in this feature! (Detailed instructions are included on page 15.)

The AV and communication updates throughout the building were a well-used point of pride when we hosted the 3rd Annual *Jesus + Justice Advocacy Conference* in late September.

The production team also welcomes Rachel Lutes to the team of Sunday worship AV producers, joining Bill Collins, Andrew Mackoul, and Trent Mitchell.

Welcome, Rachel!

Peace,
Bill Collins



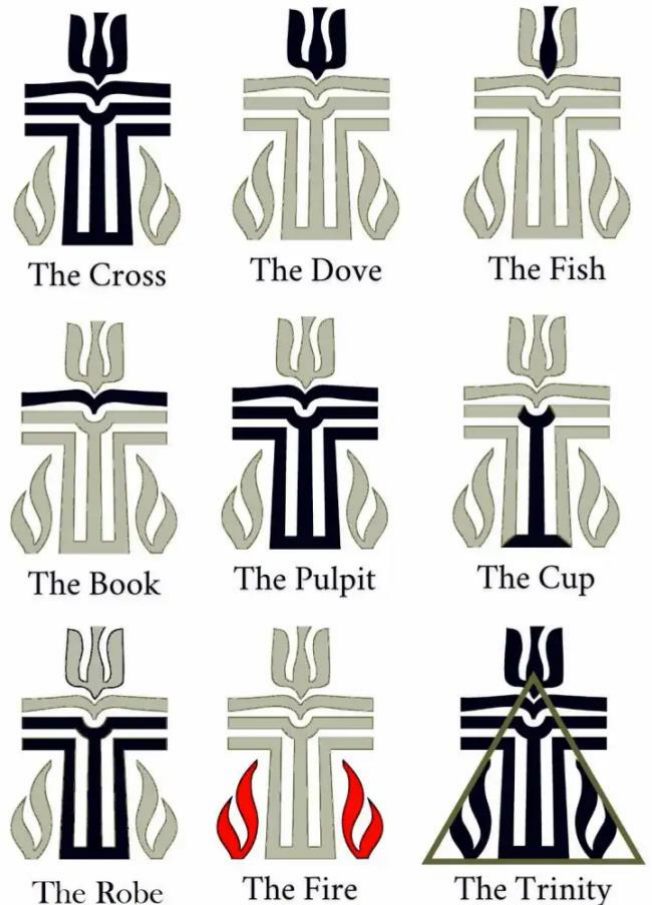
The Seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a symbolic expression of the church's heritage, identity, and mission. Every element of the design reflects an aspect of faith and tradition within the Presbyterian and Reformed heritage.

At the center is the **cross**, the universal and most ecumenical symbol of the Christian Church.

- **The Dove** — The uppermost part of the cross forms a descending dove, symbolizing the **Holy Spirit** and the **sacrament of baptism**.
- **The Fish** — Within the dove, the shape of a fish recalls an early Christian sign for **Christ**.
- **The Open Book** — The upper arms of the cross suggest an open Bible, representing **Scripture** and the Reformed tradition's emphasis on God's Word.
- **The Pulpit** — Beneath the book is a pulpit or lectern, symbolizing the **preaching of God's Word** at the heart of Presbyterian worship.
- **The Chalice and Robe** — Within this same area are a **cup or chalice**, representing the **Lord's Supper**, and a **robe**, representing the **humanity of Jesus Christ**.
- **The Flames** — The lower part of the seal contains flames forming a subtle **triangle**, the traditional symbol of the **Trinity**. The flames also recall both **God's revelation to Moses** in the burning bush and the **coming of the Holy Spirit** at Pentecost.

Symbols in the PCUSA Seal



Together, these symbols express the fullness of the Presbyterian Church's faith — rooted in Scripture, centered on Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and called to serve the world.

MUSIC NOTES with Megan

As we enter the final few weeks of the church year—culminating with **Christ the King Sunday on November 23** and followed by the **First Sunday of Advent on November 30**—I've been reflecting on the many changes and constants our music ministry has experienced.



We continue to be blessed by our steadfast organist and pianist, **Dr. Sergei Kvitko**, who is nearing his **30th anniversary** with FPC! We also celebrate the return of our longest-serving section leader, **Ben English**, now beginning his **16th season** with us. We are delighted to have **Katie Sundeen** and **Rose Rodrigue** in our soprano and alto sections, respectively. Our **Bells of First** continue under the capable direction of **Darin Showalter**, who is also doing double duty on Sunday mornings as our **Interim Bass Section Leader**.

This constancy—and the continued return of so many gifted musicians to create music and meaningful worship—speaks to the warmth, welcome, and support of our congregation.

None of this wonderful music-making would be possible without the dedication of our **volunteer musicians**: Sue, Erin, Sharon, Kathy, Rachel, Sarah, Christopher, Joe, George, Brian, Fred, Bob, Steve C., Steve W., Ceci, Sherry, Josephine, Amy, Kurt, Marty, Gwen, and Jim.

This season of darker mornings and cooler nights gives us a chance to draw closer together and to give thanks for the gift of our church *family*—a group of people from many places who come together to support, encourage, sing, pray, and embody the love of God.

Our music staff continues to pray that as we support and encourage one another, our worship remains a place of **renewal, growth, and comfort**.

Some of Our Hymns for November

326 – *For All the Saints*
804 – *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*
621 – *I Will Call Upon the Lord*
409 – *God Is Here!*
276 – *Sing a New Song unto the Lord*
353 – *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

274 – *You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd*
273 – *He Is King of Kings!*
84 – *Creator of the Stars of Night*
127 – *Jesus, Light of the World*

Some of Our Anthems for November:

Come, Come Ye Saints – John Purifoy

How Can I Keep from Singing? – arr. Gwyneth Walker

All Things New – Elaine Hagenberg

A Jubilant Thanksgiving – Patty Drennan

Jesus Shall Reign – arr. John A. Behnke (with congregation, organ, brass, and timpani)

Musically yours,

Megan



Meet the Sopranos!

“Soprano” is the highest part or voice in a four-part chorus, or an instrument with a similar high range. The term is used as both a noun and an adjective, describing a person, voice, or instrument. (Miriam-Webster)

The FPC Chancel Choir sopranos are:

Sue Carey, Sharon Johnson and Erin Schor

How long have you been singing in a church choir/singing in FPC choir?

SC: *Since I was 9 years old (62 years!) / since Fall of 2019*

SJ: *Since 1959!*

ES: *Since I was 6 years old! (church children's choir, chancel choir, high school choir, Festival Chorus @ CMU, St. Salvator's Chapel Choir in Scotland (St. Andrews), MSU Choral Union) / Decades!*

What is a beloved anthem or hymn?

SC: *"Holy, Holy, Holy"*

SJ: *"When Peace Like A River" and "The Rainbow Follows the Rain"*

ES: *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

Share a "fun fact":

SC: *When I was a bar waitress at a Holiday Inn (college days), I got paid 10 cents an hour extra to sing and play my flute with the house band, "Color My World"!*

SJ: *I dabble in painting.*

ES: *My parents did not know they were getting twins until just a few weeks before we were born when the doctors finally did an x-ray. I have been surprising and delighting them ever since*

What are your interests/hobbies?

SC: *I love to read, volunteer, garden, golf, swim, ride my bike, and make music, but spending time with my grandchildren is definitely at the top of my list!*

SJ: *I love any type of games and spending time with children & grandchildren.*

ES: *Apparently the apple doesn't fall too far from the tree, because I would say I love to read, volunteer, garden, run, do yoga, bake, make music, travel and spend time with friends and family!*

The **Presbyterian Coffee Project** offers a special link between congregations and communities around the world. Churches can now reach out to neighbors overseas not only with the prayers and offerings we give, but with the goods and products we purchase. A warm cup of coffee (or tea) in our hands is perhaps the most tangible daily connection we have with farmers around the world. It represents warmth, hospitality, fellowship, hard work and life's pleasures both fine and simple.

Fair trade products make good Christmas gifts. Gift bags can be ordered.



Visit the Fair Trade table on Sunday November 9 to purchase coffee, tea, hot chocolate, chocolate bars, olive oil, and dates.

WaveCAST Hearing Assistance App Instructions

Our new sanctuary hearing assistance system allows those who have Bluetooth-enabled hearing aids to stream the PA system audio directly to their hearing aids using the WaveCAST smartphone app. To use the WaveCAST app, follow these instructions.

1. Download the WaveCAST App

Download the WaveCAST app to your smartphone from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, depending on your device. WaveCAST is a product of Williams Sound LLC and uses the logo at right:

Note: You should be able to download the app over the church Wi-Fi, but you may find it easier to download the app from home in advance.



2. Join the Sanctuary Hearing Assistance Wi-Fi network

In the church sanctuary, open the Wi-Fi settings on your phone to view available networks and log into the *Hearing Assistance* Wi-Fi network, password: 5174820668

3. Open the WaveCAST App and Select Sanctuary Audio Channel

Then open the WaveCAST app. Once connected, the app will display a search window and the *Sanctuary* audio channel.

Tap the word to select the *Sanctuary* audio channel. Sanctuary PA system audio should immediately stream to your connected hearing aids.

When the app is streaming audio, you will see an icon to stop or play the audio stream, and a volume slider. Volume can also be adjusted using the normal phone volume controls.

Note: This part of the system will only work with hearing aids that are paired by Bluetooth to a smartphone. If you have other kinds of hearing aids, ask an usher for a transmitter with a neck loop (for T-coil enabled hearing aids), or use a transmitter with ordinary earphones.



Book Group

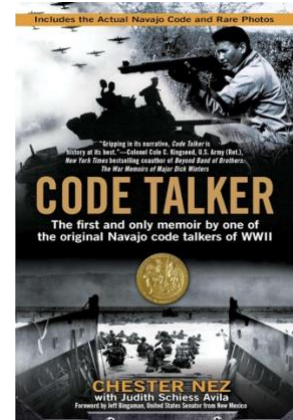


Book group will meet on Zoom until Spring. Please let Pat Eenigenburg know if you would like to be added to the book group. You can reach her at (eenigenburg@hotmail.com).

Tuesday November 4 7:00 p.m. ON ZOOM

Code Talker: The First and Only Memoir by One of the Original Navajo Code Talkers of WWII by Chester Nez

His name wasn't Chester Nez. That was the English name he was assigned in kindergarten. And in boarding school at Fort Defiance, he was punished for speaking his native language, as the teachers sought to rid him of his culture and traditions. But discrimination didn't stop Chester from answering the call to defend his country after Pearl Harbor, for the Navajo have always been warriors, and his upbringing on a New Mexico reservation gave him the strength—both physical and mental—to excel as a marine. During World War II, the Japanese had managed to crack every code the United States used. But when the Marines turned to its Navajo recruits to develop and implement a secret military language, they created the only unbroken code in modern warfare—and helped assure victory for the United States over Japan in the South Pacific.

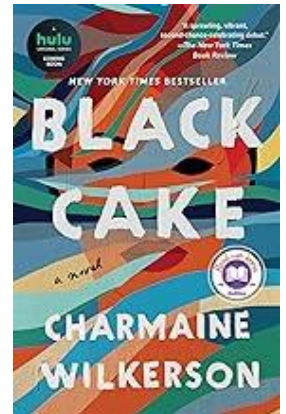


Discussion led by Trudie Frick.

Tuesday December 2 7:00 p.m. ON ZOOM

***Black Cake* by Charmaine Wilkerson**

In present-day California, Eleanor Bennett's death leaves behind a puzzling inheritance for her two children, Byron and Benny: a black cake, made from a family recipe with a long history, and a voice recording. In her message, Eleanor shares a heartbreaking story about a headstrong young swimmer who escapes her island home under suspicion of murder. Can Byron and Benny reclaim their once-close relationship, piece together Eleanor's true history, and fulfill her final request to "share the black cake when the time is right"? Charmaine Wilkerson's debut novel is an extraordinary journey through the life of a family changed forever by the choices of its matriarch.

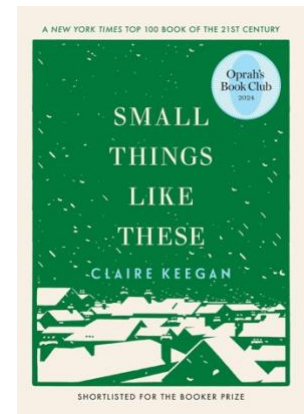


Discussion led by Jackie Blankenship.

Tuesday January 6, 7:00 on Zoom

***Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan**

Bill Furlong is a coal and fuel merchant in 1985 New Ross, Ireland. While delivering coal to the local convent, he begins to suspect that their supposed training school for girls is, in fact, a cruelly abusive laundry. Bill attempts to ignore the disturbing events at the convent, as his wife suggests. Feeling restless, he decides to visit the local pub owner, who warns Bill not to publicly criticize the convent since the church is involved in all parts of town life. He returns to the convent, where he finds one of the girls locked out in the cold. He gives her his coat and walks with her back to his own house, attracting attention from the locals they pass by. He reaches his front door, fearful but optimistic that doing the right thing will work out.



Discussion led by Linda Diepenhorst.

DEACONS NOTES: November 2025

Advent House Meals: Deacons will prepare and serve a meal at Advent House on **Sun., Nov. 23**. You do NOT have to be a Deacon to volunteer— anyone, including youth needing Community Service hours, is welcome! Contact Rich Blankenship at gogreen3426@yahoo.com for more information.

Our “Bingo!” outreach ministry with S. Washington St. Retirement Apartments **meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 7pm**. Prizes are given out after every game and donations are running a little low. You can help with by donating much appreciated items like:

- \$25 gift cards from Meijer/Kroger
- snack foods; small appliances
- personal care items like soap, lotions, toothpaste and toilet paper
- cleaning supplies like paper towels and laundry soap

Bring these donations to the church office marked “Bingo prizes.” Volunteers are needed to lead Bingo every 3rd Tuesday of the month -- contact Linda Snyder at lksnyder3@comcast.net to help.

Our “Angel Tree” is a beloved tradition that provides Christmas cheer for a family in need. You can help share God’s love and joy by providing items from a family’s wish list that would otherwise go unfulfilled. **We’ll do our Angel Tree this year via Sign-up Genius. Watch for complete details coming to you soon via all-church email!**

Holiday Basket Funds are needed now!

This year the Deacons are anticipating a per basket cost of \$60, so the number of baskets we will be providing at Thanksgiving and at Christmas has been adjusted to 75 baskets for each holiday!

Your Board of Deacons does not receive any funds from the church’s annual budget but depends on the generous extra-mile giving of our church family, so **your financial assistance is needed to accomplish this!**

Please mark your donation for the **Holiday Baskets** by putting “Holiday baskets” on the memo line of your check (checks without designation go into the General Deacon Fund).

We will be packing the Thanksgiving baskets after worship on Nov 2 & Christmas baskets on Nov 30!

This is an awesome holiday tradition - hope you plan to be there! *Thank you!*

Faith Formation at First Presbyterian Church

Formal Christian Education on Sunday mornings for children and adults continues!

CHILDREN, YOUTH & ADULTS!

4 years – 11 years Age Children!

Sunday Morning Faith Formation!

****NEW TIME****

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m

Utilizing the “Growing in God’s Love” A Story Bible Curriculum, we will begin a session on *The Birth of Jesus!*

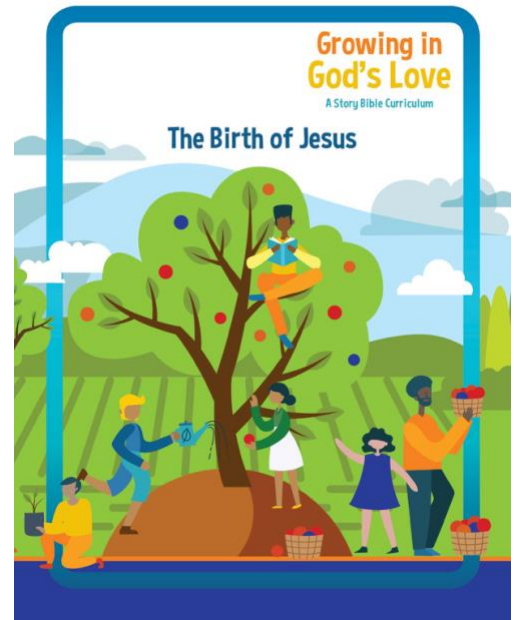
Nov 2 – “How Can This Happen?” (Mr. Bob)

Nov 9 – “How Can This Happen?” (Mr. Bob)

Nov 16 – “A Prophet is Born” (Ms. Kathy)

Nov 23 – “A Baby Is Born” (Ms. Kathy)

Nov 30 - MOVIE/LIBRARY DAY (Ms. Alyse)



There are always Children’s Bulletins (from Illustrated Ministries) available each Sunday that include Scripture, drawing, coloring and a variety of “word games” that are geared toward elementary age children. (This children’s bulletin follows the liturgical calendar, which is what is also used for worship planning.)

Also, check out the freshened up “Pray-Ground” for our younger friends who may need space to wiggle during Worship Services (books, paper/crayons, puzzles, etc. are available for any child between the ages of 3 – 8).



Our **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**, “Levi the Little Lamb” will start rehearsals in November! See Ms. Megan to find out how your child or youth can be involved. We have a place for everyone! (Pageant will be presented during our December 21st Worship Service.) We also need some ADULTS TO PARTICIPATE! *Rehearsals will begin on Sunday, November 9 AFTER Worship in the Sanctuary.*

12 years – 17 years Age Youth!

Youth (Middle and Senior High)!

Our Middle and Senior High Faith Formation continues our fellowship with Holt & Okemos Presbyterian churches this fall.

These groups come together every Sunday afternoon (September – May), we are so glad that our young people have ways to share their faith with others in our larger community!

If you have a student in grades 6 – 12, see Megan Higle or Pam Blair to find out what opportunities exist. ☺

IF Youth Group is not “your thing”, please see Megan Higle, Pam Blair or Alyse Collins for a schedule of youth Bible Study and opportunities for service within our congregation.

Adults!

Faith Formation (Adult Forum) will be deepening our knowledge of our community....we hope you are able to attend these informative, historical and relevant sessions during the month of November:

Nov 2 – THANKSGIVING BASKET PACKING! Join with all the congregation on packing boxes of groceries for our annual Thanksgiving Basket distribution. Led by our Deacons.

Nov 9 – ACT UGANDA / CRAFT SALE hear about our mission work with ACT Uganda AND peruse/purchase crafts that will benefit this amazing non-profit. Led by our Mission Committee. www.actuganda.org



Nov 16 – IMMIGRATION - The *real story*. What is the process to become a citizen of the United States? What U.S. funded programs are *actually* available for non-citizens? What journey is often taken by people? Hear from a panel of folks that utilize the Global Institute of Lansing (Paula Franz, director) as well as Pam Davies, immigration attorney and member of FPC. Resources and people on the panel to also include: SAMARITAS, CATHOLIC SERVICES and the REFUGEE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Nov 23 – NO CLASS – DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR ADVENT/CHRISTMAS! Join with all the congregation on our annual “Deck the Halls” to prepare our building for the Christmas Season. Led by our Worship Committee



Nov 30 – NO CLASS – CHRISTMAS BASKET PACKING! Join with all the congregation on packing boxes of groceries for our annual Christmas Basket distribution. Led by our Deacons.

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Lectionary **Wednesday at 10:30 am.** Bible Study (in person and on Zoom) with Pr. Bob or a Church Elder each week.

We follow the Revised Common Lectionary for each week. You can read ahead by finding the lessons in our “This Week at First Presbyterian” email that comes out weekly.

Current Event Bible Study **Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m** – WIRED WORD – (on Zoom) with Pr. Bob each week.

Recent topics have included:

- Artificial Intelligence
- What’s in a Name?
- Women of Faith
- Jane Goodall
- Gaza & Isreal

IF you would like more information, zoom links, materials for upcoming studies and/or events, please contact Megan!

ADVENT CALENDARS

We will have Advent Calendars available for families/households on November 23. You and your young learners can “countdown to Christmas” starting on December 1.

See Alyse, Megan or Pam to get your calendar!



Why do we study the Bible (God's Word)?

We study the Bible for both practical and transformative reasons. Studying the Bible is often seen as a primary source about God, humanity, ethics, and salvation, and many scholars and faith communities describe multiple aims for engagement with Scripture.



Core purposes

- Knowledge of God and His will
 - o The Bible is regarded as God's Word to humanity, guiding beliefs about God, His nature, and His plan.
- Personal and spiritual formation
 - o Regular study is described as shaping character, worship, and daily living, not just information.
- Guidance for life and ethics
 - o Scripture is used for instruction, correction, and practical wisdom in moral decisions.

Practical outcomes often highlighted

- Faith and understanding
 - o Scripture is said to deepen faith and provide understanding of God's promises and purposes.
- Transformation and growth
 - o The aim is transformation—knowing God better, aligning with truth, and growing in maturity.
- Cultural and historical literacy
 - o Studying the Bible also enhances familiarity with a text that has shaped culture, law, art, and literature

Come join us for **Wednesday morning Bible Study at 10:30 am** by zoom or in person or “The Wired Word” application of God’s Word also on **Wednesdays at 6:30 pm** in person or by Zoom.

-Pastor Bob

Christmas Traditions GATHERING

Hosted by the Christian Education Teams (Adult, Youth & Children)

Join us **after Worship on Sunday, December 14**, as we celebrate the season and share some of our favorite *Christmas Traditions!*



We need:

- 🍪 **Cookies** for a Cookie Swap
- 🍲 **Family Tradition Foods** (include a recipe card if you're willing to share!)
 - *Aebleskiver (Danish Apple Donuts)* – Ceci Anderson
 - *German Pancakes (Mennonite Recipe)* – Megan Hagle
- 🎄 **Show-and-Tell** with your family's traditional holiday decorations

We'll have:

- Containers for you to take home cookies from the swap
- A **Christmas Craft** to make together or take home
- **Music & Carols** to enjoy and sing
- Plenty of **time for fellowship and sharing**

(photo of Christmas Around the World by Ceci Anderson)

Come celebrate the joy of the season, learn about others' traditions, and share your own!

Connect with Megan Hagle, Ceci Anderson or Alyse Collins.

WOMEN OF FIRST PRES

Women of First will gather next on Saturday, November 15th from 2 – 4:30 p.m. at the home of Megan Hagle.

ALL WOMEN INVITED! JOIN US!

We will have fellowship, fun and snacks!

(photo by Megan Hagle)



Mission and Social Justice Update

November is an exciting time for our church and organizations that we support! We have the ACT Uganda craft fair after worship on November 9 (information below), on November 14 is UKirk Trivia Night (www.ukirkmsu.org) and the Justice League 4th Annual Fall Fundraiser (www.justiceleagueglm.org), in addition to other opportunities, such as packing food baskets, being a hospitality site during Silver Bells, and preparing for Advent. Opportunities abound to serve the community.

Agape Community Transformation (ACT) Uganda has been operating for 22 years. The only paid staff are located in Uganda. Their foci are education and community development, with a goal to have participants be self-sufficient. They operate a health clinic, as well as a primary and secondary school, with several students in sponsored higher education programs. They operate social businesses such as sewing, weaving, beading, and oyster mushroom farming that support ACT. **First Pres will be hosting ACT Uganda on Sunday, November 9, when you can learn more about the exciting things they do, shop for your holiday gifts, and support the self-sufficiency of Ugandans.** More information about ACT Uganda can be found at www.actuganda.org.

PRESBYTERIANS FOR EARTH-CARE

CLIMATE FRIENDLY COOKING & EATING

– TREAD MORE GENTLY

PEC is thrilled to share the efforts of the Earth Care Committee of Montclair Presbyterian Church in Oakland, CA and encourage you to purchase their cookbook: *Climate Friendly Cooking: 111 Recipes to Help Save the Planet*, written and edited by Suzanne Jones and Leslie Louie. Who knew that food could help with creation care? Both Montclair and PEC insist that eating lower on the food chain, cooking with plants and not animals, will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. “In the most comprehensive analysis to date of dietary patterns and their climate impact, researchers have found that vegan diets create 75% less greenhouse gas emissions than meat-heavy diets.”[1] Are we suggesting that you should move to an entirely plant-based diet? No, not at all. But we are encouraging you to move in that direction, maybe one, two, or three days a week. Even a small commitment will make a difference.

The Montclair cookbook says, “Humans have complex relationships with food. Food is deeply connected to our habits, emotions, and identities.” It also reflects our hospitality. “It can be a source of comfort and familiarity, health and well-being, and creativity and self-expression. We use food to communicate affection and to maintain family and cultural traditions. Enjoying food

with those we love is one of life's greatest pleasures. Yet sadly, our current ways of feeding ourselves are not sustainable. Global food production accounts for at least 26% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, and animal agriculture—livestock, fish farms, and the feed and land they require—accounts for over half of those emissions.”[2]

Purchase Montclair's [Climate Friendly Cooking: 111 Recipes to Help Save the Planet](#) for \$10 (select cookbook) or other plant-based cookbooks and blogs. Cook with a friend or family member. Get creative with your cooking and you could just help save the planet.

You can also view a recording of the PEC Nov. 2022 webinar “Eating for a Healthy Climate” [HERE](#).

Let us know what you do with your cooking and eating and ways that you can tread more gently on the earth.



GLEN ERIN PIPE BAND ROBERT BURNS CELEBRATION!

Tickets are on sale now for the Glen Erin Pipe Band's Robert Burns Celebration January 24, 2026, at MSU's Kellogg Center. This event with dinner, concerts, and dancing is a highlight of the Scottish cultural calendar and well attended by members of First Pres. Tickets are \$60.



Contact Bill Collins for more info or to reserve a seat with the First Pres group: bill@pipercollins.com

UKIRK MSU Trivia Night

Friday, November 14 – 7:00 p.m.
Okemos Presbyterian Church

UKirk MSU is the campus ministry for the [Presbyterian Church \(USA\)](https://www.pcusa.org/) at Michigan State University, and they hold trivia nights as fundraising and fellowship events. While UKirk at MSU is open to all students, regardless of their faith background, these trivia events are a specific way for the campus ministry to engage with the community and support their mission.



Brian Koon, Darla and Brian Jackson, Carol Wallace and others can tell you about this fun night filled with laughs. There are donated baked items to bid on and a silent auction. Come for the fun and support UKIRK!

Silver Bells

Join us on **Friday, November 21, 2025**—our church will again serve as a **Warming Station**!

We'll be welcoming the community with **hot chocolate and open restrooms**, and we need plenty of **greeters** to pour cocoa and guide guests. We are expecting around **800 people**, so your help (and your smiles!) will make a huge difference.

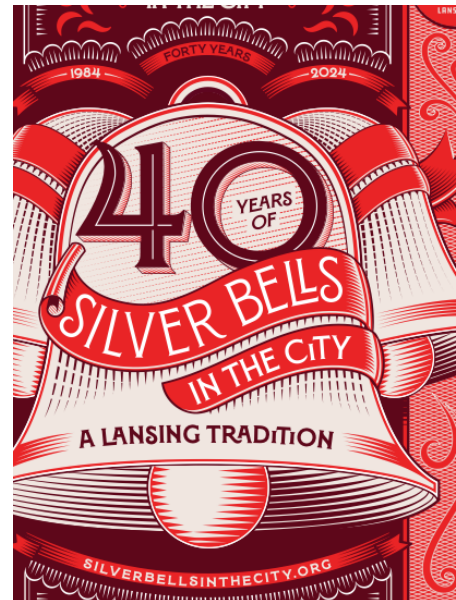
 **When:** 4:00–8:00 pm

 **How you can help:**

- Volunteer as a greeter/host
- Loan a **5-gallon thermos** for hot water

If you're able to help, please contact **Pam Blair** at
 blairkids3@yahoo.com |  517-281-9099

Let's show our community a warm welcome on this special night!



Fourth Annual Justice League Fall Celebration and Fundraiser - Tickets Now Available!

Friday, November 14th, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

MSUFCU Headquarters Bldg 2, Community Room
3899 Coolidge Rd, East Lansing

Join us as Nakia Parker, Ph.D., addresses "Unfinished Freedom: Black Struggles for Belonging and Justice." Sophia Saliby, with WKAR Public Media, will also moderate a conversation with Willye Bryan and Prince Solace about the Justice League's journey. There will be a dinner buffet by Gregory's Soul Food and music by the talented pianist Jackson Allen.

Please consider making your annual reparations payment, contribution, or pledge at the event. The event cost is covered by ticket sales, \$35 each. Please go to our website to purchase tickets: www.justiceleagueilm.org.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Don't forget, during the wee hours of Sunday, November 2nd, to set your clocks BACK one hour!



STEWARDSHIP 2026

As we approach 2026, the Session is preparing the tentative 2026 budget for the church. As most of you know, pledges are our church's most important source of income making up nearly **70% of the General Fund budget**.

As we begin our annual Stewardship Campaign, we prayerfully ask that you consider **maintaining or increasing your pledge for 2026** to help support the ongoing ministry and mission of our church.

Our Session and its committees have worked diligently to reduce spending and raise additions funds to close the General Funds deficit. Our members and friends are faithfully fulfilling their pledges, and we are receiving \$135,000 of funds from the Endowment Fund in 2025 which we anticipate can be matched or exceeded in 2026.

Because of staffing reductions and changes, the deficit for this year should remain manageable. The Session's goal is to maintain the same level of General Fund budget in 2026 as we have in 2025, as we anticipate the hiring of an interim pastor and addressing the impacts of inflation for church staff and overhead. Your financial support is vital in this effort.

We are also deeply grateful for the blessings our congregation has received this year. The **State of Michigan grant of \$500,000** has enabled major facility improvements to enhance our outreach to the community. Our **kitchen has been modernized**, and a **new elevator** will be installed in the coming weeks. In addition, the **strong performance of the Endowment Fund** has provided another **\$37,900**, and **Capital Campaign funds** have greatly improved the audio-visual technology in our sanctuary—enhancing worship for all. New **carpeting and pew cushions** have added beauty and comfort to our worship space.

We now ask you to join us in supporting the 2026 Stewardship Campaign. A pledge card will be mailed by NOVEMBER 1 to our members and friends of the church with prayerful hope that it will be returned **on NOVEMBER 16, Commitment Sunday**, when we joyfully celebrate our faith and shared commitment to Lansing First Presbyterian. If you are unable to attend worship that day, you may also mail your pledge card to the church.

Thank you for your continued generosity and for helping us serve God's mission in our neighborhood, our community, and the world.

- Finance Committee
-

First Pres Finances in Brief
As of September 30, 2025

We want the First Pres family to understand our resources, our priorities, and our progress over time.

September notes: Income minus spending was positive for the month, and the overall deficit has improved by about \$7,500. We expect more gains while payroll savings continue and our congregation continues its generous support of bottom-line finances as well as special missions and projects. We have begun looking ahead to the 2026 budget and understanding our needs for next year as we plan the fall Stewardship Campaign.

First Pres Finance Committee

Bill Collins (chair); Bev Bockes (treasurer); Jim Donaldson; Jim LeTourneau

Year to Date General Fund Activity

	Cash Flow YTD	Budgeted YTD	Difference vs. Budget
General Fund Income	\$339,427	\$324,993	\$14,434
General Fund Spending	\$384,658	\$398,165	-\$13,507
General Fund Net (Income minus Spending)	-\$45,231		

For 2025 the church operates with a deficit budget (budgeted spending is larger than budgeted income). Annual pledges have decreased while annual expenses have increased. We rely on gifts and income beyond pledges to help close the gap.

The Session continues to look for ways to reduce future expenses while maintaining our church and mission.

Year to Date Balances

	Balances
General Fund Balance	-\$64,353
Designated Funds Balance	\$178,604
Endowment Fund Balance	\$2,215,760

Short-term negative General Fund balances are covered by Designated Funds held in the same bank account, much like a savings account may back up a personal checking account.

(9/30/25) The Endowment Fund balance is reported quarterly.

Year to Date Campaign Progress

	Progress	
General Fund Pledges Received	\$228,776	toward total pledges of \$290,332.
Capital Campaign Progress	\$38,998	toward goal of \$100,000.
JLGLM Pledge Progress	\$95,713	toward pledge of \$100,000.

General Fund Income: includes things like annual pledges, weekly offerings, building use and rent income.

General Fund Spending: includes staff payroll, physical operations, repairs and utilities, mission giving, and other budgeted expenses.

Designated Funds: include money that may only be used for specific purposes, like the Deacons Fund, the Food Pantry, special music programming, memorial funds, etc.

The Endowment Fund: is managed to maintain a capital amount of \$2.1M that is invested and cannot be spent. Endowment earnings over and above the capital contribute to both the General Fund and various Designated Funds.

The Capital Campaign: was established to fund specific improvements to the sanctuary, the chapel, and other building needs that are not funded by the general budget or grants.

The JLGLM Pledge: was made by the church to the Justice League of Greater Lansing MI to contribute voluntary reparations for the benefit of Lansing's African American community.

CHURCH FAMILY

CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION:

In care facilities:

Jean D., Dianne R., Gartha A.



CELEBRATE!



Happy 50th Anniversary to Rich & Jackie Blakenship!



Dick Poland celebrated his 95th birthday on October 31!



IN MEMORIAM

Mark Higle passed on Friday, October 17. A memorial service was held in Ann Arbor on Saturday, October 25, 2025. Mark was a beloved fixture of worship services, choir & bell rehearsals, food pantry and any time we had a potluck! 😊

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Meet Natasha, Desmond, and Cecilia Williams!

Natasha and Desmond parents to our favorite singing-three-year-old, Cecilia. Their family lives in Eaton Rapids and has been part of the LFP community for more than two and a half years.



Desmond has worked at Michigan State University for 23 years and is currently part of the team at the MSU Union. He and Natasha met at MSU in 2005 and were married in the MSU Chapel. Desmond is the proud father of four wonderful children—the youngest being Cecilia!

Natasha joyfully shares her artistic gifts with our Youth Education Committee, serving as our resident *Face-Painter Extraordinaire* for many church gatherings and events. Beyond LFP, she has brought her creativity to the Out of the Darkness Suicide Awareness Walk, Lansing Pride Fest, Frontier Days, numerous Michigan State University events, and many other community celebrations throughout Eaton Rapids, DeWitt, Lansing, and East Lansing.

She offers her craft freely as a way to spread love, kindness, and acceptance through art. When she's not at First Pres—or painting faces around town—you'll likely find Natasha joyfully chasing after Cecilia!

Thank you, Natasha and Desmond, for sharing your gifts with our church family and the wider community!



Opportunity for Travel to Lebanon

Accompany the Syria Lebanon Partnership Network to Lebanon to share worship, fellowship, and a mutual time of learning with PCUSA Partners. This trip will be facilitated by Rev. Dr. Elmarie Parker, who served as PC(USA) Regional Liaison to partners in the Middle East from 2013-2025.

January 14-23, 2026

(registration due by November 30, 2025)

More details by clicking [HERE](#).



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2-Nov	Steve Campbell	15-Nov	William Marx
2-Nov	Sue Jenks	17-Nov	Sue Kangas
2-Nov	Cecilia Williams	19-Nov	Willye Bryan
4-Nov	John Mackoul	19-Nov	Milo Snyder
4-Nov	Aiden Friess	20-Nov	Gary Bailey
4-Nov	Amy Bockes	21-Nov	Anne Weirich
7-Nov	Rima Mackoul	22-Nov	Jovita Amabo
8-Nov	Laura DeYonke	23-Nov	Sorcha Powers
9-Nov	Mike Carey	25-Nov	Jack Keller
9-Nov	Cecily English	25-Nov	Sophie Keller
9-Nov	Joel Layne	28-Nov	Bailey Kennedy
11-Nov	Franco Nashif	29-Nov	Chris Hughes
13-Nov	Collin Schafer	29-Nov	Ann Helmic
14-Nov	Cobi Snyder		

Prepare for the DECEMBER newsletter.
The deadline for articles is NOVEMBER 15th.
Please send articles to Victoria: vafitton@gmail.com



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Celebrate the Holidays with Music at Lansing First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 30

Choral Sunday – Worship Service

🕒 10:00 a.m.

Friday, December 5

Capitol City Chordsmen – Winter Concert

🕒 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 6

Lansing Children's Choir – Winter Concert

🕒 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 7

"Christmas for Jazz Lovers" with the Paul Keller Ensemble

🕒 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 9

OUR WISH with the DeWitt Community Singers

🕒 7:00 p.m.

Friday, December 19

Christmas with BEYOND

🕒 7:30 p.m.

Featuring the FPC Chancel Choir & Lansing Children's Choir

Sunday, December 21

Children's Christmas Pageant – Worship Service

🕒 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, December 24

Lessons & Carols

🕒 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER CHURCH CALENDAR

Saturday, November 1 (NO ELEVATOR)

10:00 a.m. VIJ Music Rehearsal – Chapel

Sunday, November 2 *Daylight Savings Time Ends***All Saints' Day**

9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship – Sanctuary
 11:30 a.m. Deacon's Thanksgiving Baskets – Chapel
 12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries – Sanctuary
 3:00 p.m. Birthday Party – Litten Hall

Monday, November 3 (NO ELEVATOR)

9:00 a.m.-2:00 GIL Classes
 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
 5:30 p.m.-6:30 Traditional Yoga – Yoga Room
 6:30 p.m. Bells of First Rehearsal
 7:00 p.m. Membership Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 4 *Election Day* (NO ELEVATOR)

6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Election
 9:00 a.m.-2:00 GIL Classes
 6:30 pm-9:00 Glen Erin Pipe Band – Litten Hall
 7:00 p.m. Capitol City Chordsmen – Chapel
 7:00 p.m. Book Group

Wednesday, November 5 (NO ELEVATOR)

8:30 a.m. Counters – Library
 9:00 a.m.-2:00 GIL Classes
 10:30 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study
 4:00 – 6:30 p.m. Lansing Children's Choir rehearsal
 5:30 p.m.-6:30 Fit Yoga – Yoga Room
 6:30 p.m. Wired Word Bible Study – Zoom
 6:30 p.m. Mission Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 6 (NO ELEVATOR)

10:00 a.m. Adult Education Meeting - Library
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 7:00 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries

Friday, November 7 *OFFICE CLOSED* (NO ELEVATOR)

5:30 p.m.-6:30 Restorative Yoga – Yoga Room

Saturday, November 8 (NO ELEVATOR)

10:00 a.m. VIJ Music Rehearsal – Chapel
 3:00 p.m. ACT Uganda Setup – Litten Hall

Sunday, November 9 (NO ELEVATOR)

9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship
 11:30 a.m. ACT Uganda Craft Fair – Litten Hall
 12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries – Chapel
 4:00 p.m. Megan Studio Recital - Chapel

Monday, November 10 Edmund Fitzgerald Day

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
 2:00 p.m. Worship Committee – Library
 5:30 p.m.-6:30 Traditional Yoga – Yoga Room
 6:30 p.m. Bells of First Rehearsal

Tuesday, November 11

2:30 p.m. Building & Grounds Meeting
 6:30 pm-9:00 Glen Erin Pipe Band – Litten Hall
 7:00 p.m. Capitol City Chordsmen – Chapel

Wednesday, November 12

8:30 a.m. Counters – Library
 9:00 a.m.-2:00 GIL Classes
 10:30 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study
 4:00 – 6:30 p.m. Lansing Children's Choir rehearsal
 5:30 p.m.-6:30 Fit Yoga – Yoga Room
 6:30 p.m. Wired Word Bible Study – Zoom
 7:00 p.m. Deacon's Meeting

Thursday, November 13

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 7:00 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries

Friday, November 14

5:30 p.m.-6:30 Restorative Yoga – Yoga Room

Saturday, November 15

10:00 a.m. VIJ Music Rehearsal – Chapel

Sunday, November 16

9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship
 11:30 a.m. Adult Forum
 12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries – Sanctuary
 3:00 p.m. Lansing Symphony String Quartets – Chapel

Monday, November 17

9:00 a.m.-2:00 GIL Classes
 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library

5:30 p.m.-6:30 Traditional Yoga – Yoga Room

Tuesday, November 18

9:00 a.m.-2:00 GIL Classes
6:30 pm-9:00 Glen Erin Pipe Band – Litten Hall
7:00 p.m. Capitol City Chordsmen – Chapel
7:00 p.m. BINGO! At Capital City Apartments

Wednesday, November 19

8:30 a.m. Counters – Library
9:00 a.m.-2:00 GIL Classes
10:30 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study
12:00 p.m. Boomers and Beyond Luncheon
4:00 – 6:30 p.m. Lansing Children's Choir rehearsal
5:30 p.m.-6:30 Fit Yoga – Yoga Room
6:30 p.m. Wired Word Bible Study – Zoom
7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

Thursday, November 20

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries

Friday, November 21

4:00 – 8:00 p.m. Silver Bells Warming Station

Saturday, November 22

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 Clark Piano and Voice Recital
10:00 a.m. VIJ Music Rehearsal – TBD

Sunday, November 23

9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship
11:30 a.m. Christmas Decorating
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries – Chapel

Monday, November 24

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
5:30 p.m.-6:30 Traditional Yoga – Yoga Room
6:30 p.m. Bells of First Rehearsal

Tuesday, November 25

6:30 pm-9:00 Glen Erin Pipe Band – Litten Hall
7:00 p.m. Capitol City Chordsmen – Chap
7:00 p.m. DeWitt Community Singers Rehearsal – Sanctuary

Wednesday, November 26

8:30 a.m. Counters – Library
9:00 a.m.-2:00 GIL Classes
10:30 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study
~~4:00 – 6:30 p.m. Lansing Children's Choir rehearsal~~
5:30 p.m.-6:30 Fit Yoga – Yoga Room
6:30 p.m. Wired Word Bible Study – Zoom

**Thursday, November 27 *OFFICE CLOSED*
Thanksgiving Day**

Friday, November 28 *OFFICE CLOSED*

Saturday, November 29

10:00 a.m. VIJ Music Rehearsal – Chapel

Sunday, November 30

9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship (Choral Sunday)
11:30 a.m. Christmas Basket Packing
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries – Chapel

FIRST CHURCH STAFF

Supply Pastor: Rev. Dr. Barbara Edema

Part-time Custodian: Kliff Nhengu

Pastoral Care Assistant: Christine DeYonke

Church Administrator: Annika Hauser-Brydon

Bell Choir Director: Darin Showalter

Director of Christian Education &

Youth Ministry: Megan Higle

Parish Associate: Rev. Charles Herrick

Director of Music: Megan Higle

Organist: Sergei Kvitko

Childcare Staff: Makenna Davis & Skylar Wichman

Video Producers: Bill Collins,
Andrew Mackoul, Trenton Mitchell & Rachel Lutes