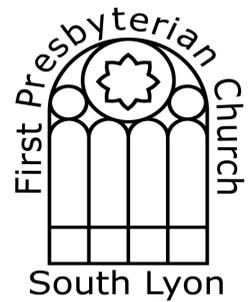


The

First Word



Vol. 18 No. 4 April 2016

First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
205 East Lake Street, South Lyon, MI 48178-0123



He Is Going Ahead of You

But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here...But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."
(Mark 16:6-7, NRSV)

This is the good news that the mysterious young man, dressed in white, proclaimed to the two Marys' and Salome on that first Easter morning so many years ago. As the women gazed into the empty tomb where Jesus' body was laid, they are informed that Jesus is not there. He has gone ahead of them.

As good Bible students, we should not be surprised by this because we know Jesus never stays in the same place for too long, especially in Mark's gospel. Jesus was always on the go, always looking ahead as he moved from one destination to the next. His command was simply to follow. Even on the day of Resurrection his command for the disciples was to follow him to Galilee. The gospel ends where Jesus' ministry first began, back in the mission field.

Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit, continues to go ahead of us today, inviting us to follow. In our Mission Statement we commit ourselves to "planting seeds of hope, compassion, and justice within and throughout South Lyon and wherever else the Holy Spirit leads us."

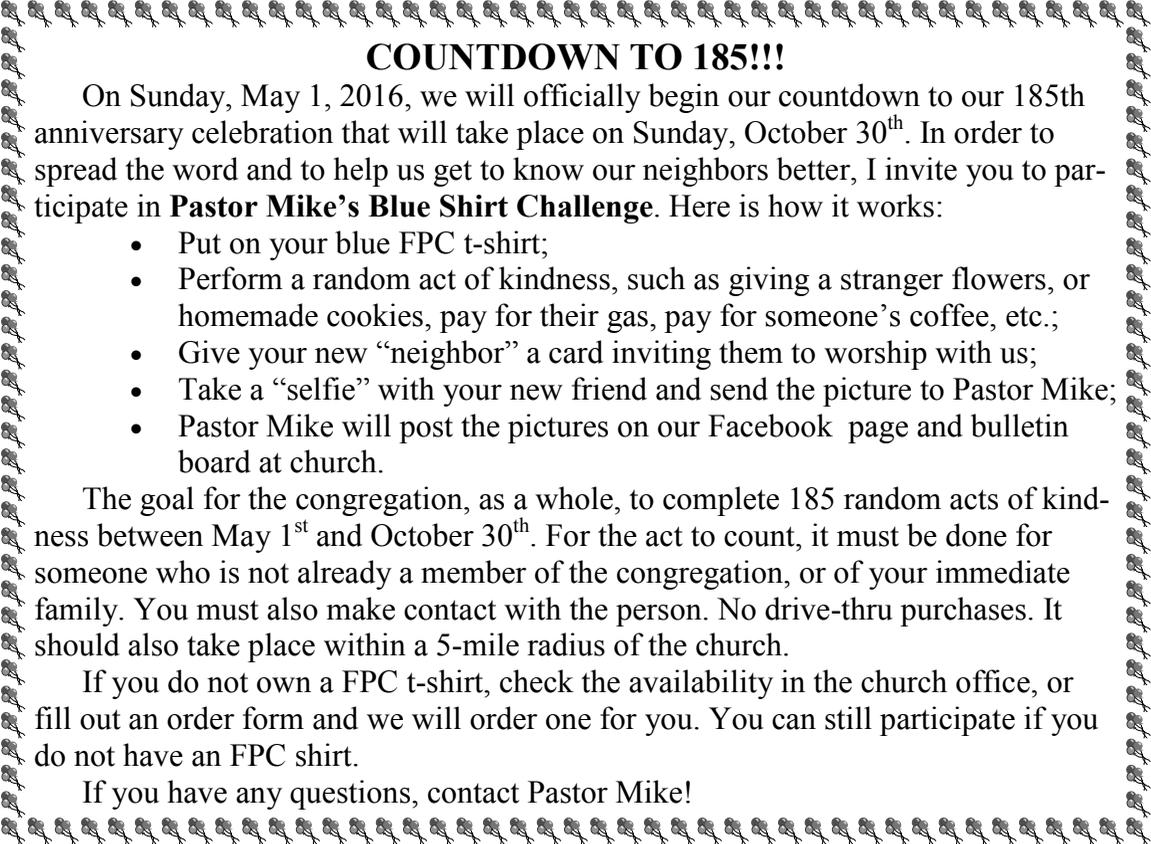
The Holy Spirit does not dwell in our church building, but is wild and free, making God's presence known throughout the world. And this is who we are invited to follow throughout South Lyon and anywhere else the Spirit leads us.

At our Annual Meeting in January, I asked you all to consider the following questions: What might God be up to in the neighborhood where we live? How do we discover where God is already at work? What will it be like to join in with what God is doing? All three questions assume that God has gone on ahead of us, and inviting us to follow.

As a result of our New Beginnings conversations we determined that we need to focus on mission redevelopment, but it also became clear that we are not sure who our "neighbor" is. We certainly have our work cut out for us as we move forward. But we will do just that. We will move forward knowing that the Holy Spirit moves ahead of us, leading us as we follow. Through prayer, discernment, and action we will use the resources that we have been gifted with and follow the Spirit accordingly.

With Grace and Peace,

Pastor Mike



COUNTDOWN TO 185!!!

On Sunday, May 1, 2016, we will officially begin our countdown to our 185th anniversary celebration that will take place on Sunday, October 30th. In order to spread the word and to help us get to know our neighbors better, I invite you to participate in **Pastor Mike's Blue Shirt Challenge**. Here is how it works:

- Put on your blue FPC t-shirt;
- Perform a random act of kindness, such as giving a stranger flowers, or homemade cookies, pay for their gas, pay for someone's coffee, etc.;
- Give your new "neighbor" a card inviting them to worship with us;
- Take a "selfie" with your new friend and send the picture to Pastor Mike;
- Pastor Mike will post the pictures on our Facebook page and bulletin board at church.

The goal for the congregation, as a whole, to complete 185 random acts of kindness between May 1st and October 30th. For the act to count, it must be done for someone who is not already a member of the congregation, or of your immediate family. You must also make contact with the person. No drive-thru purchases. It should also take place within a 5-mile radius of the church.

If you do not own a FPC t-shirt, check the availability in the church office, or fill out an order form and we will order one for you. You can still participate if you do not have an FPC shirt.

If you have any questions, contact Pastor Mike!

FOR ... AND ABOUT SOUTH LYON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN!

Women's Bible Study meets at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 13 in the Library. We will be studying Lesson Eight on "Come to the Waters". The topic is the Hospitality of Living Water...Compassion.

Lesson Focus: Jesus is the living water. The Samaritan woman, and people today, need this water. When we welcome living water into our lives, we learn the importance of hospitality and compassion.

Won't you join us in discussing forgiveness and reconciliation...and how it relates to compassion?

The **Circle of Hope** will meet at 12:15 in the Parlor on Wednesday, April 13 with Joyce Johnson as our hostess. Roll call word will be "Love". Bring a sandwich to share and our hostess will provide dessert and beverages.

This will be a work session as we assemble the favors for the Presbyterian Women of Detroit Presbytery meeting on May 7.

Are you a working women? An opportunity to meet other working women of SLFPC is to attend **Eve Circle**. They will meet April 25 at 7:00 p.m. at Anne Lyke's home. A light supper will be provided. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other women as they have interesting discussions on many topics. Call Anne if you need directions.

Remember to mark your calendar for May 7 when SLFPC will be hosting the women of Detroit Presbytery. This is a historical moment as we have never hosted a meeting of the Presbytery Women before and you will want to be part of the day. Lunch Reservations are due by April 29 to Vonda Boatman, 437-5004 and cost is \$8.00.

Mission Moment: ***Calling all Grandmas...an opportunity to buy a baby item!***

The cradle is in place to receive Baby items for Detroit Presbyterian Women Missions. Any baby item will do..., bibs, onesies, diapers, wipes, receiving blankets. We will only be collecting items until May 15 for the Ingathering.

***Remember...Part of the Presbyterian Women's Purpose is
"to support the mission of the church worldwide"***

Bible Trivia: After Eve, who was the first woman mentioned in the Bible? (Genesis 4:19)

From the Deacons

Spring has come and soon the Spring weather will stay for more than a day or two at a time. At least the grass is green and some crocuses and hyacinths are showing off their pretty colors. It's nice to see more people out and about in town on days the temperatures are more mild. It's that time of year where we reconnect with neighbors and friends who have been hibernating. Please check in with those you haven't seen or heard from for some time and let the deacons know of any prayers or special needs some of our friends may need. ~ Stephanie Horlocker

Thank you to Marci Mulligan, Kristi Mulligan, and Stephanie Horlocker for taking a couple hours out of a busy Saturday morning to assemble Easter baskets on behalf of FPC. *Families Building Faith* coordinates the assembly of hundreds of Easter baskets ranging in ages from 2 to 92. They provided baskets to the clients of Active Faith, and other families in need within the South Lyon school district; elementary school students in Flint, Pontiac, and Detroit. Thank you to all who donated items collected for these special baskets.

ALL-DAY CRAFT Fundraiser is slated for Saturday, April 30 from 8a.m - 8p.m. Proceeds from this event will go to provide camperships to the Howell Nature and Conference Center for area at-risk youth. As usual you will be provided with a table, three meals, and snacks. Whether you make cards, scrapbook, quilt, sew, knit, crochet, tie fishing flies, make jewelry, etc., you are invited! This year the cost is going to be \$35. This is the first increase since we started doing this many, many years ago. And it is for charity after all. If you have any questions please contact Gwyn McClintock at 810-599-7133 or Kathy Schultz at 734-449-2938. A sign-up sheet is on the friendship table near the parlor, or call one of the above mentioned ladies.



VBS 2016**June 20 - June 24****SURF SHACK: Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love**

God's amazing love is never more evident than in our Children's Ministries here at First Presbyterian South Lyon, and as we get ready for another exciting year of VBS, the opportunities to share that love also becomes more clear.

Where do your gifts lie? Do you have a heart for organizing, or with manning the Registration table? Is your gift working in the kitchen, preparing healthy and fun snacks and sharing them with the kids and volunteers? Or are you a crafty sort who would like to have the hands-on experience of imagining and creating crafts that embrace the theme and share God's love? Or perhaps you are the kind of person who works behind the scenes, who donates food or supplies to be used for our VBS program?

No matter the way or ways in which God calls you to participate in our VBS ministry, there is always a place for you to offer your best for the children of our congregation and community. Pastor Jo is beginning to meet with the VBS area chairpersons to begin planning, and there is already a sign-up sheet on the Children's bulletin board across from Pastor Mike's office. There are positions for all abilities!

So won't you check it out and see how God might be calling you to participate? You don't want to miss this awesome opportunity!

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Pastor Jo Morgan at the church or on her cell at 734-560-3885.



Mission & Outreach

Active Faith (AF): During April the preferred food donation is CANNED MEAT. This includes ravioli, stew, chili with meat, and everyone's favorite SPAM. The donation box is still near the elevator. As of the date of this writing, this year we have collected 145 pounds of non-perishable food to the pantry.

The Strike Out Hunger bowling fundraiser was a great fun, said the participants. The Strike Out Hunger bowling fundraiser for Active Faith was great fun. We sent two teams of bowlers; Bob and Dorcus Cue; Mike and Stephanie Horlocker; Donna Rae; Dean Beckstein; and Ron and Gwyn McClintock. Thanks to all who participated and to all who provided monetary support. FPCSL sponsored 2 teams of bowlers.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: There were 45 attempts that resulted in 32 pints of blood donated. We had a steady stream of people all day. Most of the appointments were online to Redcross.org. If you want to donate in August, sign up early online if possible. If not, then contact Bob Cue. Many of the people rejected were from low iron or for visiting the Caribbean or Puerto Rico because of the Zika mosquito outbreak. Check with the Red Cross online for details. Thanks to our volunteers that brought cookies, and dinner for the staff, those that gave their time during the day, and most of all those that were able to donate. Our next drive is 16 August.

Capernaum Health Clinic (CHC): April 1st ended the first clinic week of 2016. Many patients were seen at United Methodist Church for medical, dental, and optical treatment. We had a very successful start to our denture program. This month's health clinic was condensed to 3 1/2 days instead of 4 1/2 days, although we cared for the same amount of patients, just in less time. I would like to thank all of the volunteers who worked tirelessly to help the people of South Lyon. Thanks to Gwyn McClintock and all her volunteers for their faithful and tireless work in aiding those with less access to health care.

Everyone Eats (E1E): A great big "THANK YOU" to all the pie bakers. The Easter meal was a blessed success.

Our next monthly meal is 20 April. Help is needed to provide 16 dozen cookies and to serve on Wednesday at the Spirit of Hope Church (carpooling available). Sign-up sheets are now found on the "clip" board next to the M&O bulletin board. Volunteers are always welcome; meet in the foyer at 9:15am on the third Wednesday.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS): On Palm Sunday, we netted 82.0455 kilograms or 180.9 pounds of fish (in pennies), that is, \$546.97. This money is divided between the Presbyterian Hunger Program, the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program, and the Committee for the Self-Development of People to transform people's lives right where they live. *Thank you.*

Safe House of Ann Arbor: The offering, a total of \$85, received at the Lenten After-Dark service went to this organization which assists victims of domestic violence.

Upcoming events: 15 May is Pentecost. Everyone will see RED if you wear it to signify the Holy Spirit in your life. 22 May begins our 4th annual Great Tomato Give Away. Be sure to pick up your free tomato plant and grow fruit to fight hunger.

Upcoming Events for 2016

South Lyon City Wide Garage Sale May 2016



The illustration shows a bustling garage sale scene. In the background, there's a clock tower and a street scene. In the foreground, several people are depicted: a woman in a floral dress, a man in a hat, and a woman in a striped shirt. They are surrounded by various signs and items for sale. Signs include 'SIDEWALK SALE', 'SWAP MEET', 'FLEA MARKET', '5 FAMILY YARD SALE', 'CARPET SALE', 'GARAGE SALE', 'YARD SALE', 'CAR SALE', 'Patio Sale', 'ESTATE SALE', 'MOVING SALE!', and 'STUFF I BOUGHT AT OTHER GARAGE SALES SALE!'. There are also items like a table, a chair, and a basket of goods.

RENT YOUR SPACE AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

205 East Lake Street, South Lyon, MI 48178

WHEN: Saturday, May 21, 2016
TIME: 9am to 6pm Sales Hours • 8am Arrive/Set up for Sellers
COST: \$15 6 ft table (15 Available) • \$20 8 ft table (33 Available)

Spaces will be available for rent on our empty lot (corner of Lake and Reese streets) Rain or shine, NO REFUNDS, register/pay in advance (must be registered AND paid in full no later than April 30, 2016). Participants required to bring own chairs, canopies, etc. Only your rented table is provided First Presbyterian Church South Lyon assumes NO responsibility for any damage or loss incurred by sellers.

For more information and registration, please contact the church office 248-437-2875

March 2016

Session Notes

Present: Present: Moderator Rev. M. Horlocker; Clerk-Elder A. Lyke; Elders D. Beckstein, R. Cue, P. Eichinger, T. Goodman, B. Greene, K. MacNish, R.

McClintock, M. Mueller, D. Rae; Treasurer R. Weinburger; Deacon Representative D. Allen; catechumens S. Harris, L. Horlocker, L. Mueller; Confirmation class co-leader A. Clifton [1728].

Motions Approved:

- Approved the financial information for the General Assembly Annual Statistical Report 2015.
- Hired Penar Builders at a cost of \$500 {additional \$500 provided by an anonymous donor} to move accessibility ramp from T. Morgan's [1888] home to E. Donley's [182] home.
- Used \$272 from Pastor's Discretionary line item at Active Faith's request.
- Approved Pastor study leave from Monday 16 May to Sunday 22 May (inclusive).
- Approved Baptism of Abigail Hohf on Sunday 10 April with Katy Doyle-Hohf presiding.
- Set date of Ordination & Installation as Sunday 12 June.
- Approved spending up to \$5,000 to replace the fire alarm system, installation of smoke detectors, and an additional pull station {the first \$2,235 to come from the Maintenance Budget line item for repair of the panel; enhancements/additions to come from the Legacy Fund.
- Approved spending up to \$400 to replace damaged pole to the historic sign.
- Spent \$500 to reimburse Rev. J. Morgan for VBS and Kid's Connection supplies.
- Purchased a lunch {not to exceed \$100} for the volunteer dentists and hygienists at the 15 April Dental Day at Tothtown Dentistry.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Lyke
Clerk of Session

Prayers & Praises

Prayer requests received during the month of March..

Please pray for . . .

- Jane Beckstein
- Paul Lloyd
- Eleanor Donley
- Bill Clogg
- Ted Morgan
- Millie Turnbull
- Mary Haack
- Pat Jansky
- The family of Ruth Morrow (Mark Fitzgerald's aunt)
- Harry and Shirley Prentis' daughter -in-law recovering from surgery
- Kim MacNish's mom
- Barbara Johanningsmeier's friends Dorinda and Ron battling cancer
- Scott Rich's brother John
- Anne Lyke's cousin Beth and family on the death of her husband Jim
- Tom and Phyllis Goodman's niece Barbara
- Ed Beckstein's friend Kathy and family on the passing of her sister Pat
- Gary Panicacci's mother Mary
- The people of Flint
- Children in the DPS school district
- Those impacted by the terror attacks in Belgium and Pakistan

Joys and Thanksgiving...

- for the children and youth here at First Presbyterian Church
- Dante Panicacci for coming home after 6 years of service in the United States Air Force
- a blessed Holy Week

Our Shut-ins and Homebound

- Jane Beckstein
- Joan Borsh
- Millie Bunn
- Bill & Glenna Clogg
- Eleanor Donley
- Edna Hope
- Betty Ross
- Ann Seden
- Shirley Westacott

Our Men Serving in the Armed Forces

- Kenny Bond
- Ben Bond
- Brian Petersen
- Jared Roth

Our Friends Under the Care of Presbytery

- Anne Lyke
- Ruth Azar

Request prayer by calling the church office at (248) 437-2875 or online at www.fpcsouthlyon.org/prayer-requests. Please let your Deacon know how your prayer is being answered. If you do not know who your Deacon is, contact the church office.

FARMER'S MARKET CHILDREN'S TENT

On Saturday, May 21st, FPC will be hosting a craft at the children's tent at the Farmer's Market. This is a great opportunity to meet families in our community, to share our faith, and invite them to all the great programs we offer our children, including our upcoming Vacation Bible School.

Pastor Jo will be at the tent but will need volunteers who enjoy both crafts and children. Help setting up and tearing down will be appreciated as well.

If you would like to help, contact Pastor Jo. As always, thank you for your support.



SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Rev. Michael Horlocker, Pastor

Email: mhorlocker1@gmail.com

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday

Rev. Joanne Morgan, Parish Associate

Email: joanne.marie.morgan@gmail.com

Office Hours: Wednesday

Laura Goode, Administrative Assistant

Email: office@fpcsouthlyon.org

Office Hours: Mon., Wed., Thurs. 9-3

Office is closed on Tuesdays & Fridays

Sally Messner, Director of Music

Email: sally.messner@gmail.com

Bob Weinburger, Treasurer

Peggy Hart, Custodian

Office: 248.437.2875

www.fpcsouthlyon.com



Time to re-enroll your Kroger Plus Card

Just a friendly reminder that if you linked your Kroger Plus card to the church for the Kroger Community Rewards program, you will need to re-enroll by April 1st so that your purchases count for 2016. If you have any questions, are new to the program, or need help re-enrolling, please call or stop by the office and we will help you through the process. Thank you for participation in 2015. Every little bit makes a big difference!

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205 East Lake Street
South Lyon, MI 48178-0123

Mission Statement:

We are sent out by Jesus Christ to feed God's people spiritually, physically, and lovingly; planting seeds of hope, compassion, and justice within and throughout South Lyon and wherever else the Holy Spirit leads us.