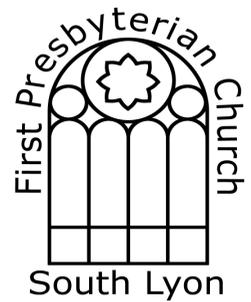


The

First Word



Vol. 18 No. 2 February 2016

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

What to do with Lent...

It seems like just yesterday that we were taking down Christmas trees and other decorations, and here we are, talking about Lent. Yes, Lent is just around the corner, which is good news because that means Easter won't be far behind. But let's not jump too far ahead of ourselves. Like Advent, Lent is more than just a countdown to the holiday that waits on the other side.

Lent began in the early church as a time to prepare for baptism and membership into the church which took place at the Easter Vigil. Since then, it has evolved into a "forty day" journey of self-examination and reflection that includes prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Our Lenten journey begins on Ash Wednesday, February 10, with a candlelight worship service at 7:00 p.m. We will participate in the imposition of ashes and share in the Lord's Supper.

During these forty days, you may notice a "different tone" during worship. Peter C. Bower, editor of The Companion to the Book of Common Worship, writes:

At the beginning of Lent, we are reminded that our possessions, our rulers, our empires, our projects, our families, and even our lives do not last forever. "You are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Gen. 3:19). The liturgies throughout Lent try to pry loose our fingers, one by one, from presumed securities and plunge us into unknown baptismal waters, waters that turn out to be not only our death tomb, but surprisingly our womb of life. Rather than falling back into nothingness, we fall back on everlasting arms. Death? How can we fear what we have already undergone in baptism?

It is the power of the resurrection on the horizon ahead that draws us in repentance toward the cross and tomb. Through the intervention of God's gracious res-

urrection, lifelong changes in our values and behavior become possible. By turning from the end of the “old self” in us, Lenten repentance makes it possible for us to affirm joyfully, “Death is no more!” and to aim toward the landscape of the new age. Faithfully adhering to the Lenten journey of “prayer, fasting, and almsgiving” leads to the destination of Easter. (Bower, pp. 110-111)

During our Lenten journey, you may hear hymns that are unfamiliar, scripture that makes you uncomfortable, and liturgy that takes you out of your comfort zone. You may even feel like you are lost “in the wilderness.” Whatever it is you experience during our time of worship together, I invite you to embrace it and take some time to reflect on why it is that you feel the way you do.

I also invite you to carve out time in your busy schedules for daily scripture reading. There is a link to the PCUSA daily readings on our website, or start with Genesis and read a couple chapters each day. Consider attending the Wednesday evening Bible Study at church. For the women, attend one of the circles for study and fellowship.

On Thursdays at 10:00 a.m., beginning February 11th, Thursday Theology returns in the form of a book study. Together we will explore Barbara Brown Taylor’s Learning to Walk in the Dark. Books can be purchased at amazon.com for \$10.00.

However you choose to experience Lent, I ask that you do so deliberately. Embrace these forty days as we journey to Jerusalem and to the cross of Jesus. It is only then that we can shout our alleluias on Easter morning.

With Peace and Grace,

Pastor Mike

MARCI MULLIGAN TO RUN FOR CLEAN WATER

Did you know that 1/7th of the worlds population does not have access to clean water on a daily basis? Or that every 90 seconds a child under the age of 5 dies due to an illness associated with contaminated water?

Team World Vision runs/walks so that the poorest can have access to fresh, clean, uncontaminated water. Clean water gives hope and changes lives!

Our very own Marci Mulligan has joined an ecumenical team from local South Lyon churches that will do a 6K run on March 19th at Maybury State Park in Northville. You financially support Marci by visiting the following website:

<https://www.teamworldvision.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donate.participant&participantID=49121>

or see Marci on Sunday mornings to make a donation.

Thank you Marci for representing FPCSL!!!

LET'S PLAY EUCHRE

If you like to play Euchre, we have a group for you!

Each month on a designated Friday night, several members of our church get together for a fun night out and play Euchre. This month on Friday, February 5th, at 7:00 p.m. Lynn and Jo Morgan will host Euchre at their home.

If you haven't had the opportunity to join us in the past and would like to play, there is a sign-up sheet at the Friendship Table with all of the pertinent information.

Our next Euchre Night will be on Friday, March 4th. Location to be determined.

**SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY!!!**

On Sunday, February 7th, as the country celebrates Super Bowl Sunday, consider donating your "loose" change and/or cans of soup for the Souper Bowl of Caring.

Members of the Youth Connection will be collecting your loose change during our fellowship time together. Cans of soup can be placed in the Active Faith collection box.

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE TO
HOST OUR "FAT TUESDAY"
PANCAKE DINNER**

Please join us on Tuesday, February 9th for our Annual "Fat Tuesday" Pancake Dinner. Enjoy all the pancakes you can eat and try all the different homemade toppings. Dinner will be served from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

This year's free-will donation will be given to support the Capernaum Health Clinic, so be sure to invite your friends and family. All are welcome!

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
FEBRUARY 10TH
at 7:00 PM**

Begin the season of Lent by joining us for a special candlelight worship service which will include the imposition of ashes and celebration of our Lord's Supper.



FOR ... AND ABOUT SOUTH LYON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN!

2016 has gotten off to a rousing start with many items on the Women's Agenda here at FPC South Lyon.

Our mission focus this year will be fleece blankets, collecting socks, bibs and wheelchair/walker bags and something new for this year's ingathering...we are adding items for layettes (diapers, receiving blankets, etc). This will provide an opportunity for those who don't sew, knit or crochet to purchase any layette item they would like to shop for. You can expect to see our Mission Coordinator, Gwyn McClintock setting up a display of these layette items in the future so you can see exactly what is acceptable.

One of our most important events will be the hosting of the Presbyterian Women of the Detroit Presbytery here in our church on May 7, 2016. The meeting will begin at 9:30 with registration, displays and a welcome coffee time in our parlor. Following the meeting we will serve a delicious lunch in the Fellowship Hall to approximately 75 women who have made prior reservations. Cost for lunch is \$8.00 and Donna Rae is our lunch chairperson, and we will need the help of ALL the women here at South Lyon FPC.

This will also be an opportunity for all of us to attend a PWPD meeting to meet women from all over the Detroit area without having to drive a distance to participate. This is a historic event....the women of Detroit Presbytery have never been hosted in South Lyon!

So, I'm encouraging all of you to put this date on your calendar and help us make this a successful day and let FPC South Lyon shine.

Circle of Hope will meet Wednesday, February 10 at 12:15 in the Parlor for luncheon meeting. Bring a sandwich to share. Vonda Boatman is the hostess and the word for February is "Heart".

Our evening circle has a new name (Circle Eve) and will meet at 7:00 p.m. February 29 at Anne Lyke's with a light supper provided.

Bible Study will meet at 11:00 a.m. in the Library Wednesday, February 10 studying Lesson Six from the "Come to the Waters" official Presbyterian Women's Bible Study for 2016. Topic is "Waters of Justice and Righteousness—Justice", asking the question: What places in our world need the cleansing waters of justice and righteousness?

Please read the Presbyterian Women's Annual Report that will be available for our Congregation Annual Meeting. There are some interesting facts in there you might be surprised about for our total mission giving in 2015!

Mission and Outreach

Due to the Christmas season, and numerous absentees for our January meeting, we did not have a lot of specific items that were discussed this month. Please remember *Every one Eats* for the coming months, we need help with food, cooking, and serving.

We have been discussing where best to utilize our church family to the most good in our own church, and out into the community. That seems like a lot to take on, but we already do more than most other organizations do. We don't have a large number of people doing any one project, but we have a majority of our church family doing up to twenty different projects over the course of the year.

The mission and outreach team would like to thank everyone that somehow has donated their time to make someone else's life a little better. As the year progresses and we start implementing projects, I hope that those that not had a chance to help will step forward and volunteer. We are an amazing, giving church family!

Thank you for your efforts,

Bob Cue, Anne Lyke, Barb Johanningsmeier, Jeanette Asiala, Mitch Van Ochten



FEBRUARY
Pantry Needs
for Active Faith

During the month of February, the preferred food donation is: **RICE**

UPCOMING EVENTS
Blood Drive is Tuesday, March 15th
-eat your spinach.

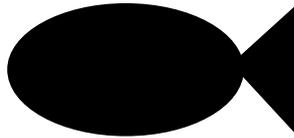


Blood Drive

With the season of Lent also comes the **One Great Hour of Sharing**. On Sunday 14 February, the fish banks and giving calendars will be available to take home. Use them as a devotional or study throughout Lent.

The banks and/or offering envelopes will be collected on 20 March (Palm Sunday).

Feed the Fish



January 2016

Session Notes

Present: Moderator Rev. M. Horlocker; Clerk- Elder A. Lyke; Elders R. Cue, T. Goodman, B. Greene, K. MacNish, R. McClintock, M. Mueller, D. Rae; Treasurer R. Weinburger; Deacon Representative D. Cue.

Excused: Elders D. Beckstein, K. Colley, P. Eichinger.

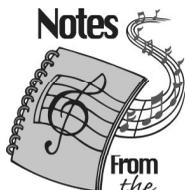
Motions approved:

- to accept the resignation of Elder K. Colley, due to her move to North Carolina.
- to remove persons from the Baptized Roll the year he/she becomes 18 years old without profession of faith, after sending a letter of intent.
- to purchase up to four (4) hymnals as memorials for members who have recently entered the Church Triumphant at a cost not to exceed \$100.00.
- to purchase six (6) sets of Year Orange curriculum, Grades 1&2, Spring and six (6) Spark Story Bibles for a total of \$179.95.
- to hold a Sacraments Workshop 28 February 2016 from 6pm-8pm at a cost not to exceed \$24.00.
- to celebrate the Lord's Supper at the Sacraments Workshop.
- to hold one (1) AfterDark Service with Communion during Lent on Wednesday 8 March 2016 at 7pm.
- to spend up to \$50.00 for Eco-palms for Palm Sunday.
- to offer for rent tables at the South Lyon City-Wide Garage Sale on Saturday 14 May 2016 at a cost of \$15/6 foot table and \$20/8 foot table, rain or shine (i.e., no refund)
- to purchase a pre-lit 12 foot Christmas tree as a cost not to exceed \$500.00.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Lyke

Clerk of Session



**From
the
Music Director**

Just a friendly reminder— the dates and time for Bell Choir rehearsals are: 31, March, 14, April, 21, April, 28, April, 5, May, 12, May, 19, May. Rehearsal time is 6:30 p.m. for all dates.

Bells will be playing during worship on 24 April and 22 May.

After playing at our two worship services in April and May, we will take a break until fall. At that time we will practice weekly at 6:30 p.m.

From the Deacons

Greetings from your deacons!

One item we would like to get the word out on is the Easter baskets being put together through "Family's Building Faith". There will be a box put out in the church parlor soon for us to fill with items such as coloring books, crayons, children's books, bubbles, matchbox cars, etc. These items are for young people from birth to teenage years. Further updates soon!

God bless,
Deacon Jack Rae



**Please make the following changes
to your 2015 Church directory:**

New email address:

Jack Rae - jackrae4670@gmail.com

Updated phone numbers:

Jack Rae -(734) 353-0119

The Rae's no longer have a home phone.

Address Changes:

Mr. Ted Morgan

c/o Mrs. Terry Williamson
5000 N. County Road 420W
Greensburg, IN 47240
Cell phone: 734-276-8419

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Clogg

c/o Mr. Troy Clogg
4875 Product Drive
Wixom, MI 48393

PVT Benjamin M. Bond

PSC Box 21016
Jacksonville, NC 28545-1016

Mr. Dante Panicacci

59799 Nine Mile Road
South Lyon, MI 48178

No current address for Ann Seden.

A DAY OF CHRISTMAS JOY

Our first Christmas VBS, *A Day of Christmas Joy*, was an absolute and total success!

Fourteen children participated in the six hour program, sharing in crafts, games, lunch and snacks, and in the telling of the Christmas Story, which culminated in the Children's Worship Service on Sunday, December 27, a truly remarkable event. Who would have thought that we would once again have so many children joyfully sharing in the presentation and singing, and so many youth leading the service? It was a genuine Christmas miracle!

The Youth who participated in A Day of Christmas Joy include: Lauren Horlocker, Simon Harris, Kaylie Stancato, Megan McClintock Bonnie Romero, Lily Mueller, and Amya Heath.

The adults who shared their time and talents for our Day of Christmas joy include: Anne Lyke, Pat Niess, Donna Rae, Barbara Morgan, Dorcas and Bob Cue, and Pastor Mike.

And also, I would like to thank all the wonderful parents who gifted us with their children's participation. Your children are awesome, and have blessed us all.

It is truly a blessing to come together to serve one another in the celebration of the New-born King, and to share Gods' blessings so freely and fully. Thanks to all who helped and attended.

Pastor Jo

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENT WORKSHOP

February 28, 6:00—8:00 p.m.

All children ages 3 and up and their parent(s) are invited to spend a special evening exploring the sacraments and their meaning at First Presbyterian Church. As children are a part of our worship together, it is important that families have an understanding of our celebration of the sacraments of Baptism and Communion.

The workshop takes place during our regular Kid's Connection program, but begins at 6pm

with dinner together, followed by crafts and activities that reinforce the concepts of the sacraments. The evening finishes off with a short communion service in which all are invited to partake.

It is up to parents to decide when their children are ready to participate in Communion, but this workshop helps us all understand these joyful parts of our worship together.

To better plan for the dinner and activities, please let us know the number of children and adults in your family that will be attending by calling the church office (248-437-2875) or contacting Pastor Jo.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, March 20, 6:30—8:00 p.m.

Bring your Easter Basket and get ready for some fun at our 2nd annual Kid's Connection Easter Egg Hunt! Both Kid's Connection participants and guests are invited. We'll meet in our classroom for a brief lesson - game on Holy Week, have our Hunt, and then finish up the evening with a special Easter craft.

We ask that you RSVP to the church office (248-437-2875) or Pastor Jo if possible, so that we can be ready with candy, crafts and seats for all attending.

VBS 2016

June 27 - July 1

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.

CHILDREN'S/ADULT'S LARGE PRINT BULLETINS

Each Sunday, there are bulletins available in large print for children, and for adults who might benefit from the larger type. Please ask the greeter for one as you come into worship, and enjoy!

Prayers & Praises

Prayer requests received during the month of January.

please pray for . . .

- the Fowler family on the passing of John
- Pat and Gary Cooper and family on the passing of Pat's brother
- the Lottes family on the passing of Hudson
- the family of Madonna Youngson
- the family of Scott Matthews on the passing of his mother June
- Ted Morgan
- Eleanor Donley
- Terry Tennant
- Bill and Glenna Clogg
- Millie Turnbull
- Kenyetta West
- Roger Calhoun
- to all those who are troubled with colds and other related ailments
- for all of the people along the East Coast affected by the blizzard and flooding the people of Flint
- for everyone in declining health
- for victims of violence in our country and the world

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



John Fowler

b December 9, 1919

d January 12, 2016

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.

MONDAY EVENING CIRCLE HAS A NAME!

“Circle Eve”

meets on Monday, February 29th at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Anne Lyke. We will be reading from the book of Ruth and the roll call is a meaningful verse from Ruth. All women of the church are invited to attend.

A light meal will be served.

New Book Study

Thursdays beginning Feb. 11th at
10:00 a.m.

Join us as we explore
Barbara Brown Taylor’s
Learning to Walk in the Dark.

Books can be purchased
through amazon.com for \$10.

Contact Pastor Mike
for more information.



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

Our K.C. kids sing during Sunday worship!

Please mark your calendars for these important dates:

February 21,

March 20 (Palm Sunday),

April 17,

May 8 & 15

First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
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.