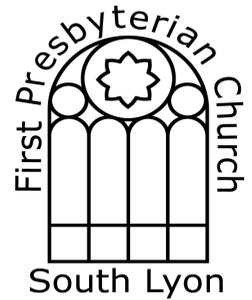


The

First Word



Vol. 18 No. 6 June 2016

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

IT FINALLY HAPPENED...

As I hesitantly got out of my vehicle at the Speedway station on Pontiac Trail, I kept rehearsing my “speech” over and over again, under my breath:

“Hello. I’m the pastor at First Presbyterian Church. Our church is celebrating its 185th anniversary, and to celebrate we are doing 185 random acts of kindness. If it’s okay with you, I’d like to fill your gas tank.”

The photographer from the South Lyon Herald must have known I was nervous because he asked, “Have you ever done this before?”

“Nope,” I replied. “This is my first time.”

“Well, I’m ready when you are,” he said.

“Okay! Let’s do this!” I exclaimed.

The gas station was busy that day with no available pumps. I waited patiently for one to finish, so a new customer could pull in. I rushed over to the bright red convertible, and as the woman got out her car to swipe her credit card, I yelled over to her, “Ma’am! Can I pay for your gas today?” Not exactly the speech I had practiced so many times just moments before.

“What?” she asked as she stared at me both dazed and confused.

“Your gas,” I said. “I’d like to pay for it.”

“Why do you want to pay for my gas?” she asked.

And there was the opportunity...”I’m the pastor at First Presbyterian Church...” and so on.

With a smile on her face, she said, “That is wonderful. What a great idea. It makes me want to cry that you would want to do that; however, you should fill up someone else’s gas tank...someone who can use it more than me; but, I will take a hug! You made

my day!”

So I gave a hug and went a couple pumps down to a gentleman who just pulled up to the pump. This time I did it the way I practiced it.

“Wow! That’s pretty cool,” he replied. “However, I’m on business and my gas is reimbursed by my company. You may want to fill someone else’s tank.”

“*Are you kidding me???*” I thought to myself. How can it be this difficult to fill a tank of gas???

Just then, a car with two 20-somethings pulled up beside me. “Dude! Are you giving away free gas?”

“Yes! Yes, I am. Can I fill you up?” I asked.

“What’s the catch?” They asked suspiciously.

“There is no catch...” and then I went into my speech about the church.

“Dude, that’s awesome! Yeah, you can fill me up.”

As I filled up his tank, the photographer jumped in and took some shots for the paper, and I received a “God bless you” from the recipient of the free gas.

Ten minutes later I was back in the church office sharing my experience with Laura and Jo. “I actually enjoyed myself,” I told them. I got to meet three people from our community who I’d never met before, and share good news about our church. And to top it off, I got a free hug.

As I reflect back on those moments at Speedway, it is funny to think that I was nervous and even somewhat fearful of the reaction I would get as soon as I mentioned church. Yet, as soon as the words came out of my mouth, I was filled with joy.

There is a lot of anger in the world today that is fueled by fear. We see it daily in the way people respond to one another on social media; or watch it on the news in protests and demonstrations.

In this world of anger and fear, acts of kindness are needed more than ever. God delivers loving kindness to each of us in abundance every day. As reformed Christians, our good works are expressions of gratitude in response to God’s love for us. Jesus teaches us not only to love our neighbors, but shows us how.

The goal of my challenge to achieve 185 acts of kindness was not to reach a certain number. The end goal is for each of us to get out of our comfort zones, to go out into the community, and to show kindness to our neighbors. I apologize that if in my excitement and fanfare we lost sight of this goal.

A new month is upon us, and with it a new opportunity to go out and be deliberate in our kindness. May the Holy Spirit grant you courage and guide you in this endeavor.

With Peace and Grace,

Pastor Mike

VBS 2016 IS ALMOST HERE!**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.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who have already signed up to help this year. If you haven't yet signed up but would like to help, the sign up is on the Children's Christian Education bulletin board across from Pastor Mike's office, or contact Pastor Jo and she can provide further direction.

We are currently accepting donations of snack items for our week of fun. If you would like to donate food items, be sure to stop by the Friendship Table for the list of food needed.

Finally, be sure to mark your calendars for Sunday, June 26th, as the children from VBS will provide special music during our worship service. This time honored tradition has become a favorite at FPC, so don't miss out on the fun.

If you have any questions regarding VBS, be sure to contact Pastor Jo at the church, or on her cell at 734-560-3885.



MISSION & OUTREACH

Active Faith: Cereal is the thing for June. This provides easy preparation food for children, especially since the low/no cost breakfast at school is not available during the summer vacation.

And remember to check the package's expiration date!

Everyone Eats: June has TWO meals the fifteenth (15) and the twenty-ninth (29). That means double the cookies, double the fun. If anyone needs community service hours for school, join us at 9:30am in the foyer. We'll drive you to the site at Spirit of Hope Church and bring you home. Permission slips are needed for those under 18 years; check with the Pastor to get one. Bob Cue or Anne Lyke can tell you about the activity if you are curious.

Back by popular demand: The POP-UP KITCHEN WITH JARED BOBKIN!!

The talented chef will work with the theme "Heaven and Hell" referencing Everyone Eats goal to feed the hungry in Detroit and Jared's experiences on TV's *Hell's Kitchen*. This five-course feast will begin at 6pm on Thursday 9 June at Spirit of Hope. Tickets are available from Earl Eiben, E1E director, at chaz531@sbcglobal.net or <http://brownpapertickets.com/event/2550160>. Tickets are \$75/person (50% a charitable donation).

World Wide Knit In Public day: Do you knit or crochet? Or want to learn? Join Anne on the front lawn Saturday 18 June from 1pm to 4pm. We will be making scarves that are 4" x 36" for Operation Gratitude, an organization that sends care packages to U.S. Troops, Veterans, New Recruits, Wounded Warriors, and Military Children. Bring a skein of yarn in a muted color (but not a red, white, & blue ombre) and needles/hook; lawn chair or blanket. Canopies, beverages, and snacks available. Register at <http://www.wwkip.com>. Go to find a KIP in Americas; Michigan; Knitting at First.

SAVE THE DATE...

On Monday, 18 July, the Presbytery of Detroit will be sponsoring a Health Fair at the Second Mile Center of Detroit. Each year, more than 200 residents are seen by medical professionals; however, many volunteers are needed to make the day a success. For those who would like to volunteer from 4:00—8:00 p.m. you may car pool with Pastor Mike. We will leave FPC at 2:45 p.m. and be back before 9:00 p.m. If you have any questions, be sure to contact Pastor Mike.

FOR ... AND ABOUT SOUTH LYON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN!

Thank you to all you wonderful women of SLFPC....you showed up in force and were outstanding hostesses to all the Presbyterian Women of Detroit Presbytery on May 7. We had nothing but rave reviews saying it was the best event they ever had and how welcoming and gracious we women from South Lyon were, and how glad they were for Pastor Mike's support. Bless you all for helping, from set-up to food prep, providing desserts and welcoming our visitors at the door, helping with the coffee hour and just being there and smiling. Thanks to Pastor Mike and Matt Mueller for all their help. You are all loved and much appreciated! Thank you again.

Another Thank You is in order, for all the layette items that were donated for the PWPD Mission Project for the in-gathering in the fall. A nice variety has been carefully packed up to be taken to Detroit.

Circle of Hope will not be meeting again until September. Watch the church bulletin and September Newsletter for any information circle members will need to know.

Circle Eve will have their next meeting on June 27th at the home of Anne Lyke.

The Women's Bible Study will resume in September studying the 2016-2017 PW Bible Study with more details to follow. We had a wonderful group of women and hope that others will join us in the fall. You don't have to be a Bible scholar...just willing to attend and enjoy the conversation as we explore together.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! October 8th at 2:00 p.m. will be the fall Women's Event. It's a mystery trip and we hope all of you will attend. I'm not telling so just wait and be surprised, but put the date on your calendar so you won't miss out on this fun-filled event!

Enjoy celebrating our 185th Birthday this summer as many events are being planned to honor our history.

Bible Trivia: What prophetess was the sister of two great leaders and once was afflicted with leprosy for being rebellious? (Exodus 15:20 and Numbers 12:1)

...(my own comment: ...a woman, rebellious?)



CHAIR DRIVE

In lieu of a birthday offering to celebrate our 185th anniversary, session has approved a chair drive to replace the folding chairs in both the fellowship hall and the parlor. We will be purchasing a total of 140 new chairs. The drive will continue through 31 August. Chairs can be purchased for \$25 each. If you would like to contribute to the drive, simply send a check to the church for how many you'd like to purchase. Be sure to include "Chair drive" in the memo. Thank you for your participation.



The Worship and Music Committee invite you to try something new this summer. On Thursday, June 16th, join us on the Manse patio as we sit around a fire, sing favorite hymns, while enjoying a beer (or beverage of your choice)

and each other's company. The fun begins at 7:00 p.m. and lasts until the last log is burned. All are welcome to join the fun, so be sure to invite a friend or two.

2016 PHOTO DIRECTORY—UPDATE! CALLING ALL FAMILIES

Our scheduled photo sessions for our new directory are approaching quickly. Remember, the photographers will be here on Friday and Saturday, June 17th and 18th. Thank you to all who have already signed up.

Unfortunately, many of our families with children have yet to sign up and time is running out. Please take a moment to go online at our website or contact the church office to be scheduled. The ongoing myth is that our church lacks children. Pastor Mike would like to blow that myth out of the water. What better way to do so than to have our families pictured in our upcoming photo directory? So, please sign up. We appreciate your support!



From the Deacons

by **Debbie Allen**

How does God's wisdom come to us? The wise path is, first and foremost, consistent with the Scriptures. Beyond that, wisdom comes through peace in our minds and hearts that we're doing the right thing; or wisdom often comes to us through the counsel of another person who God puts in our path. Wisdom comes to us in the beauty of nature or in a friend's smile or grief.

We, the deacons, ask that you keep us in your prayers for God's wisdom in our decision making and planning in the coming year. God, hear our prayers.

We welcome new Deacons: Jeanette Asiala, Heather Mueller, and Nancy Geiger. Back for a second term are Stephanie Horlocker and Gwyn McClintock. Remaining deacons are Jack Rae, Tina Van Ochten, Joyce Johnson, Debbie Allen, and Dorcas Cue.

THE LAKE STREET CRUISE IN IS BACK!!!

What better reminder that summer has reached South Lyon than attending the Lake Street Cruise In. Last month's opener was a blast with great sights, sounds and smells all around the church grounds. Spectators enjoyed hot dogs, popcorn and brownies; and our little ones enjoyed a craft thanks to Pastor Jo.

This year, we are offering tours of our historic Sanctuary for any who would like to learn more about our beautiful building.

Did you miss last month's? No worries. The summer is just getting started. The next Cruise In is Wednesday, June 22 at 6:30 p.m. Be sure to come down. You'll be glad you did!



Future Cruise In Dates:

- **July 27**
- **August 24**
- **September 28**

May 2016**Session Notes****Regular Session Meeting, 24 May 2016**

Present: Moderator Rev. M. Horlocker; Clerk Elder A. Lyke; Elder D. Beckstein, R. Cue, P. Eichinger, T. Goodman, B. Greene, R. McClintock, M. Mueller, D. Rae; Treasurer R. Weinburger; Deacon representative D. Allen; Members S. Horlocker [1855], H. Mueller [1834]; Confirmands L. Horlocker, L. Mueller; member-candidates Marilyn Harrington, Steve Harrington. Absent: K. MacNish.

Motions approved:

- receive Lauren Horlocker and Lily Mueller as new members by profession of faith during Worship on Sunday 26 June 2016
- receive Marilyn and Steve Harrington as new members by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church (USA), Flint, during Worship on Sunday 26 June 2016.
- baptize Stella Rife, daughter of Stephanie and Dale Rife, on Sunday 12 June 2016.
- allow Pastor vacation time from Tuesday 5 July to Sunday 10 July (inclusive).
- begin a faith-based support group for parents of disabled children in Fall 2016.
- renew insurance policy with Church Mutual Insurance with modifications: increase deductible to \$2,500.00 to reduce annual cost; add directors insurance to protect Session members for decisions by Session.
- spend up to \$600.00 for continuing education for the Director of Music.
- review all church policies systematically, including effective date, date of review, and date of change.
- spend up to \$250.00 (from maintenance budget) for choir light fixture.
- spend up to \$5,500.00 (from legacy fund) to repair plaster and repaint the Sanctuary, front foyer, chapel and first floor accessible restroom.
- install an asphalt ramp from parking lot to side lot.
- accept the donation of a dishwasher for the Parlor from the Presbyterian Women with the Property & Facilities committee in charge of purchase of the machine, method and cost of installation.
- have fundraiser to purchase 140 chairs & storage rack ending by 1 Aug 2016 to celebrate the 185th anniversary of FPCSL.
- spend \$110.00 to advertise in Centennial Farms Newsletter for one-year.

**Respectfully submitted,
Anne Lyke**

In my
**FATHER'S
 FOOTSTEPS**



Make this keepsake to express love for your dad or another special man this Father's Day.

What you need:

- White construction paper (11" x 13" sheet)
- Pencil
- Black permanent marker
- Crayons or paint

What you do:

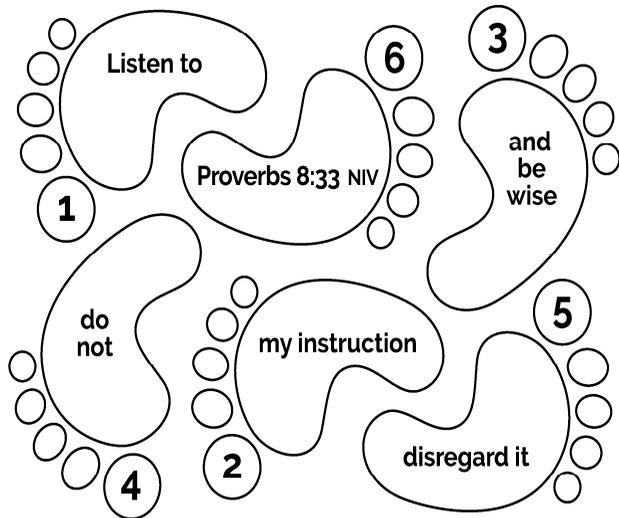
1. In the center of the paper, trace your foot in pencil. Darken the outline with marker.
2. Color or paint the footprint. Let it dry.
3. Trace your father's foot (same one) on top of your footprint (with yours in the middle of his).
4. Color or paint his footprint. Let it dry.
5. Sign your names and the date at the bottom.



**FOLLOW OUR
 FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS**

In the book of Proverbs, a father urges his son to listen to his wisdom, which he received from his heavenly Father.

Directions: Starting at 1, follow the footsteps and write the words in order on the blanks below.



“ _____ ;
 _____ ”
 _____ : _____

Answers: "Listen to my instruction and be wise; do not disregard it." Proverbs 8:33, NIV

Prayers & Praises

Prayer requests received during the month of May.

Please pray for . . .

- the family of Lois White
- the family of Joanne Rice
- the Rhoden family
- the family of Madelyn Doty
- Kim MacNish's sister Tammy, and the passing of Kim's cousin Connie.
- Joan Danielson
- Dick Lyke
- Precious Luttmann
- Gordon Powers
- the passing of Cue's longtime friend Mike.
- Mrs. Jansky
- Millie Bunn
- Jon Fisher
- Dr. Chuck Heubner
- Gloria and Ron Welsh
- Bette Haack
- Jane Beckstein
- Rob VanderVoort
- Bill Clogg
- for all caregivers struggling with challenges.
- for all affected by the tragic wildfire in Alberta.
- that the Holy Spirit guides our presidential election.

In thanksgiving . . .

- the Asiala family would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support during Tom's illness and his passing.
- The family of Paul Lloyd would like to thank the congregation for their love and support at his passing.

Our Shut-ins and Homebound

- Jane Beckstein
- Joan Borsh
- Millie Bunn
- Bill & Glenna Clogg
- 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.

Special Sunday's in June at FPC...

Sunday, June 12th

Baptism of Stella Rife

Immediately following worship witness the renewal of vows as Kim and Dan MacNish celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary.

Sunday, June 26th

VBS Sunday, special music offered by the children of VBS.

Our middle and high school students will make their confirmation.

We will receive new members.

A special ice cream social is being planned by the Congregational Life Committee.

Don't forget the piñata for the children after worship!

Sunday, July 3

Patriotic Hymn Sing on the front lawn, followed by a potluck picnic after worship. Bring a lawn chair and a dish to pass!



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

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.