

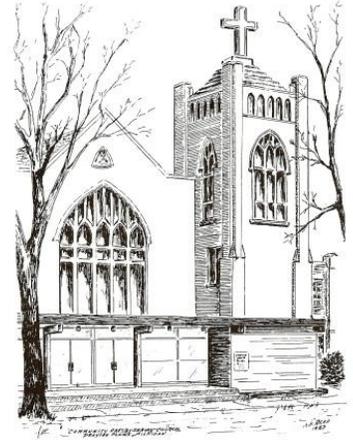
The Community Presbyterian Church

Informer

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Pastor's Ponderings

We have had a couple of relatively warm days lately, warm at least warm for January in Michigan. The warmer weather has caused most of the snow on the ground to melt. As I look out at the church parking lot, the melted snow has now refrozen causing icy spots. Those slick spots make it a challenge to walk across the pavement without slipping and falling. A physical slip and fall could cause numerous problems – problems we all want to avoid!

This pondering led me to think about our spiritual life, where we also slip and fall.

The good news is that God helps lift us up from our spiritual slips and falls and empowers us to begin again. This truth is reflected in Psalm 32 which reminds us of God's hand at work. Verse 1 of the Message paraphrase: "Count yourself lucky, how happy you must be, you get a fresh start, your slate's wiped clean"

Let us be thankful for God's grace and mercy which helps us get back up and being again! May the words of this prayer/poem below resonate with you.

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Beth

O God, help me to believe in beginnings
and in my beginning again,
no matter how often I've failed before.

Help me to make beginnings:
to begin going out of my weary mind
into fresh dreams,
daring to make my own bold tracks
in the land of now;
to begin forgiving
that I may experience mercy;
to begin questioning the unquestionable
that I may know truth
to begin disciplining
that I may create beauty;
to begin sacrificing

that I may make peace;
 to begin loving
 that I may realize joy.

Help me to believe in beginnings,
 to make a beginning,
 to be a beginning,
 so that I may not just grow old,
 but grow new
 each day of this wild, amazing life
 you call me to live
 with the passion of Jesus Christ.

Excerpt from Ted Loder's book *Guerrillas of Grace*.

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Music and Worship

Schedule of Communion for 2018

- Baptism of the Lord – **January 7**
- 1st Sunday of Lent – **February 18**
- March 4**
- Maundy Thursday – **March 29**
- Easter Sunday – **April 1**
- Pentecost Sunday – **May 20**
- June 3**
- July 1**
- August 5**
- September 2**
- World Communion Sunday – **October 7**
- All Saints' Day, Sunday – **October 28**
- 1st Sunday of Advent – **December 2**
- Christmas Eve – **December 24**

Lent – Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent, a spiritual journey that spans forty days (not including Sundays) from Ash Wednesday until the Saturday before Easter Sunday. Join us for a special Ash Wednesday Service on February 14 at 7:00 p.m. The service will assist us on our journey this Lent to the Heart of God with time for reflection, penitence, music and the imposition of ashes.

Wednesday Devotionals by Waterford Ministerial Association

Each Wednesday during Lent, a local church hosts worship at 12 noon followed by a luncheon at 12:30pm. Please note the schedule below. Pastor Beth will be leading the devotional on March 21st. All are welcome to attend.

- February 21 at Community of Christ Church
- February 28 at Grace and Peace UMC
- March 7 at Canterbury on the Lake
- March 14 at Christ Lutheran Church
- March 21 at Bethel United Church of Christ



Christian Education

Adult Education: "Hosanna: A Spiritual Journey Through Holy Week"

Explore the main texts in all four Gospels and in Paul's writings that deal specifically with the last week of Jesus' life and with the resurrection.

Every one of the four Gospel writers has a reason for writing. Each wants his audience to come to see who Jesus Christ is and what God is doing in and through him.

For this study, Paul is also crucial. He is the first of the New Testament writers to mention the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. All of his work predates any of the four Gospels. Paul is the only writer that we know for certain was a witness of the resurrected Christ so he has a special place in the discussion of Holy Week and the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We invite you to listen and respond to five stories of the One Story, over five sessions. Join us on this spiritual journey through Holy Week.

The class will be on Sunday mornings at 8:50-9:50AM from 2/18 – 3/25 in the parlor. The study guides are \$10.00. Call Kim Bishop to reserve your guide at 248-318-9680 by Sunday 2/11/18. We will see you there.

Presbyterian Women

PWPD 2018 Annual Retreat

First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
Saturday March 24, 2018

Keynote Speaker Renee Warman

Renee Warman is known for being a motivational speaker involved in GLOW women's ministries, has recorded many Christian songs and ministries. Please go to pbydetroit.org and click on Partner Announcements (scroll down to Presbyterian Women) for more information.

I will not be able to attend, but this sounds like it should be a very good program.

Carol Axford

Deacons

Joys and Concerns

Prayers...

Our active military, people suffering from natural disasters, Jeff Hazlett, Mary Lou Barker, Susan McAllister

Sympathy...

To Suanne Eichbrecht, the extended Eichbrecht family, and the many friends-as-family of Gary Eichbrecht for his passing on January 18.

Thank you! Thank you!

The Deacons give a huge thank you for all who helped set up, on Sunday, and clean up, on Monday, for Gary Eichbrecht's funeral luncheon. We would not have been able to accomplish so much without all of your help. Thank you again!

Nancy Hunt, Chairperson of Deacons

Membership

Directory Update...

Please update Beverly Kepler's address & phone:
20741 Tuck Rd, #15, Farmington Hills, 48336
Cell: 248-881-3843

February Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Melissa Bonk
Karen Cloutier
Kierstin Dwire
Patricia Edwards
Ellen Jones
Beverly Kepler
Jackson Ostrom
Helen Sargent
Evelyn Sheridan
Julie Stinson
Zachary Stinson
Bob Thornton
Ilah Williams

Please notify the office of any mistakes or omissions in the birthday list.

Session

During the Congregation Meeting on January 21, Pastor Beth mentioned a realignment of Session to give each elder responsibility over an area. Below is a list of the committees, their chairperson and a brief description of the committee's function.

If any of these committees interest you, talk to the Elder chair of that committee or to Pastor Beth.

Building and Grounds - *Tim Stinson*

Was formerly called Trustees; the name was changed to reflect the fact that all of the Elders on the Session are Trustees. This committee's work focuses on maintenance and upkeep of the physical assets of our congregation – the building itself as well as the property.

Membership - *Nita Larpenteur*

This committee oversees our members, reaching out to those who have been absent, communicates with the congregation, and helps with new membership classes.

Fellowship & Outreach - *Joanne*

Prudhomme & Jack Zahn

The goal of this committee is to provide opportunities for the congregation and guests to come together in fellowship & friendship with activities such as the Fox Lake Farms Picnic, the Christmas Party, and outings to the Theatre. They are also looking for ways to engage those outside our church community.

Worship & Music - *Cam McCaffrey*

This committee oversees and assists with worship, coordinating with staff to provide a full range of worship during the year.

Finance - *Mike Erkfritz*

Provides oversight and guidance of financial assets of the congregation, including working with the treasurer to practice and maintain proper accounting procedures as well as producing financial reports for the session and congregation.

Stewardship - *Beverly Kepler*

Stewardship means being good caretakers of God's creation. This includes financial stewardship as well as our call to be good stewards of all resources. The committee will encourage the congregation in their call to be good stewards.

Mission - *Alice Sias*

This committee supports and encourages mission in our congregation, local communities, and throughout the world

Nominating - *Sandy Maguire*

Responsibilities of this committee center around finding and recruiting parishioners to stand for election as church officers - Elders and Deacons. This committee also has responsibility for nominating other church-wide committees such as the pastor nominating committee.

Christian Education

Children/Youth - *Kathleen Dougherty*

Adult - *Kim Bishop*

The Christian Education committee oversees and provides learning opportunities for all ages within the congregation. Tasks include selection of educational materials, recruiting teachers, and encourage all members of the congregation to participate in classes offered.

Personnel - *Jenny Sansom*

The Personal Committee directs the administration of the total work of the church regarding its employees, benefits, job descriptions, and working relationships.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 10 Worship 11 Coffee Fellowship	29 5:30p Game Night @ Big Boy Cla	30 10 \$3 Line Dancing	31 1p Bulletin Info Submission Deac 6p Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30p Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Feb 1 1p Friends Bible Study 5:30p \$3 Line Dancing	2	3 10 Officer Training
4 10 Worship 11 Fellowship Lunch	5 5:30p Game Night @ Big Boy Cla 6:30p Cub Scouts - Dining Rm, G	6 10 \$3 Line Dancing 7p Christian Ed. mtg 7p Mission Committee mtg. 7p Music & Worship	7 1p Bulletin Info Submission Deac 6p Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30p Handbell Choir Rehearsal	8 9 Fellowship Breakfast @ Dixie D 5:30p \$3 Line Dancing	9	10
11 10 Worship 11 Coffee Fellowship	12 1p Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:30p Game Night @ Big Boy Cla 7p Finance mtg.	13 10 \$3 Line Dancing 6:30p Deacons mtg. 7p Session	14 Valentine's Day 1p Bulletin Info Submission Deac 6p Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7p Ash Wednesday 7:30p Handbell Choir Rehearsal	15 5:30p \$3 Line Dancing 7p Grief Support	16	17 1p "Nugget & Fang" MB Children's
18 Informer Deadline 8:50 Hosanna Spiritual Journey 10 Worship & Communion 11 Youth Breakfast	19 Presidents' Day 5:30p Game Night @ Big Boy Cla 7p Community Activities Mtg @ Cf	20 10 \$3 Line Dancing 7p Community Activities Mtg @ Cf	21 12p Lent Service @ Comm.of Chr 1p Bulletin Info Submission Deac 6p Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30p Handbell Choir Rehearsal	22 5:30p \$3 Line Dancing	23	24
25 One Great Hour of Sharing 8:50 Hosanna Spiritual Journey 10 Worship 11 Coffee Fellowship	26 5:30p Game Night @ Big Boy Cla 6:30p Cub Scouts - Dining Rm, G	27 10 \$3 Line Dancing	28 12p Lent Service @ Grace & Peac 1p Bulletin Info Submission Deac 6p Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30p Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Mar 1 1p Friends Bible Study 5:30p \$3 Line Dancing	2 10 "History's Alive!!" Double Bill M	3 10 "Otherwise Known as Sheila T 1p "Otherwise Known as Sheila T



*Community Presbyterian Church (USA)
of Drayton Plains*

4301 Monroe Avenue at Sashabaw
Waterford, Michigan 48329

Place First
Class Stamp
Here

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

FEBRUARY