



Pickford Presbyterian Pages

From the Pastor...

February 14th brings to mind hearts and love and perhaps even chocolates and roses as it is Valentine's Day. This year, however, February 14th is also Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season. Ash Wednesday that brings to mind repentance, the death of our old selves, and ashes. It's an interesting juxtaposition—love and death, roses and ashes—and yet both days remind us to celebrate and remember life and love.

For as the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* explains, “Ash Wednesday signifies a time to turn around, to change directions, to repent. This first day of Lent reminds us that unless we are willing to die to our old selves, we cannot be raised to new life with Christ. The first step of this journey calls us to acknowledge and confront our mortality...” Even as we are reminded of death, “we are dust and to dust we shall return,” we are comforted by God's assurance of new life.

This year, to recognize Ash Wednesday, instead of holding one service, we're going to have the church open for the entire day, 8:00am-8:00pm. There will be different prayer stations set up around the sanctuary and you are welcome to come by at any time to reflect on the meaning of the day.

There will be ways to reflect on creation, repentance, and life. I hope that you'll take advantage of this opportunity to remember and acknowledge the beginning of our journey to the cross and from there to the empty tomb. As we travel through this season, we'll be immersing ourselves in God's Word with the *Bible in 90 Days* challenge. This practice will take us through the entire Easter season, up to Pentecost. You'll find resources available at the church. Look for more information in the bulletin, upcoming newsletters, and on Facebook.

We'll be offering small groups for everyone participating so please sign up in the narthex or let me know you're planning on joining the challenge. I'll use that information to plan times for meetings and materials. Friends, let's journey together through Lent as we “reaffirm who we are and always will be [followers of Christ], in anticipation of Easter” (Ibid).

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jessica

February 2018
Volume 28, Issue 2

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OFFICE HOURS
Monday – Thursday
starting @ 8:30 a.m.

THINGS TO NOTE...

Financial Updates:

Please consult the annual report for 2017 Financial Information. If you did not receive a copy and would like one, please let Jessica Bjunes know.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The February 1, 2018 meeting will be at 12:30 p.m. with main meal provided.

PENNINGTON HOME

Presbyterian Women are collecting items for the Pennington Home through the month of February, see list located on the table in the narthex for items needed. Please place items in labeled bin located in the narthex.

ASH WEDNESDAY

We will celebrate the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Instead of a scheduled worship service in the evening, the church will be open all day, 8:00am to 8:00pm. There will be different prayer stations set up in the sanctuary to offer guidance for reflection. Pastor Jessica will also be available for prayer and discussion. If you have any questions about it, please let her know. We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to recognize the start of the Lenten season.



NEWS FROM THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Reminder that the service list for Sunday mornings is being updated. Please let any committee member know if you want on the list for liturgist, usher, greeter, nursery, or candle lighting. Remember that if you are unable to serve your designated Sunday, you are responsible for finding your own replacement. This is a great way to serve and give a little back to our God and church.

Our committee is also looking for someone (or two) to join us. Come try us on for some great discussions and planning for worship services. You do not need to be a musician – it just looks that way! Talk with committee members Jill Halsey, Sarah Morrison, or Elaine Slater for more information.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

On Sunday, February 4th we will be collecting canned goods and monetary donations as part of the Souper Bowl of Caring. Souper Bowl of Caring is youth across the nation working to fight hunger and poverty in their own communities around the time of the Super Bowl football game.

All canned goods and donations collected on February 4th will be given to Cedar Post. We hope that you will be able to give generously as we work to fight hunger. Thank you for your support.

SAVE THE DATE

Women, mark your calendars for Mackinac Presbytery's Presbyterian Women Gathering. It will be held at the First Presbyterian Church of Elk Rapids on Saturday, April 28, 2018. Please see flyer on bulletin board for more information.

The regular monthly meeting of the Pickford Presbyterian Women was held on Thursday January 11th., in the church parlors with 12 members present. Hostesses were Gloria Smith and Clara Hillock.

Moderator, Alice Halsey, opened the meeting by lighting the Christ candle, Our Purpose was read, and a prayer was given.

The secretary's report was read and approved. The following correspondence was read: A thank you was read from Zelma Boal, Shirley Mc Dowell, Marilyn Dickinson and Valarie and Jim Hill for the fruit baskets for Christmas: a thank you from Hearthside Assisted Living for the gift bags for the residents; Thank you from the families of Theora Bosley, Roy Rye and Tom Edie for the sympathy cards and memorial monies and Superior Health Systems Support for a donation in memory of Arlis Fountain, and a gift of \$20.00 for the bakeless bake sale in memory of Beth Quinnell from Pam Zamora.

The treasurer's report was given. There is a balance of \$4240.22.

Social: The Christmas Tea was served to 25 attendees; 43 people were served at Roy Rye's funeral; 11 women had their Christmas luncheon at Main Street Cafe and, 25 were served following the Hanging of the Greens. Next month's hostess will be Judy Schwiderson and Irene Nettleton.

Rememberance: 3 sympathy cards, 3 thinking of you, 1- 90th birthday card, 6 Christmas cards and 9 Christmas cards and fruit baskets were sent

Old business: 35 Gift bags were given to residents of care facilities.

New Business: \$100.00 will be added to our yearly giving for Pennington House.

The meal will be provided following the annual meeting. A cassorele, salad and pie will be served. It was suggested that we asked some of the younger ladies to help with this.

A member is needed to serve on the nominating committee.

Betty Bawks has agreed to serve in group C

A list was presented for donations for on-going needs to Pennington House.

It was suggested, with the session's permission, to add some friendly new design to the church basement. Gloria Smith will head the design committee.

The meeting was adjourned and a Bible study "Falling in love with God again" was held.

Respectfully submitted,

Valarie Hill, Secretary
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Valarie Hill, Secretary :

SUNDAY MORNING ROTATIONS

Date	Liturgists	Greeters	Ushers	Nursery
2/4/2018	Dick Morrison	Jerry & Christy Thurmes	Jim Rye	Mandy Stec
2/11/2018	Pat Hunter	Tim & Carol Storey	Emory Schwiderson & Family	Kristin Taylor
2/18/2018	Bob Slater	Emory & Judy Schwiderson	Arlene Portice & Elaine Slater	Carol Wallis
2/25/2018	Alice Halsey	Don Stirling & Family	Jim Quinnell & Don Stevenson	Denice Portice
3/4/2018	Dick Morrison	Chuck & Mary Jane Bennin	Tim Storey	Mandy Stec
3/11/2018	Cindy Smith	Jodi Soeltner & Denice Portice	Bob Rye & Family	Kristin Taylor
3/18/2018	R.B. Smith	Jim & Karen Rye	Bill & Curt Beacom	Carol Wallis
3/25/2018	Pat Hunter	Jerry & Christy Thurmes	Jim Rye	Denice Portice
4/1/2018	Bob Slater	Tim & Carol Storey	Emory Schwiderson & Family	Cheryl Harrison
4/8/2018	Alice Halsey	Paul & Cheryl Harrison	Arlene Portice & Elaine Slater	Mandy Stec
4/15/2018	Dick Morrison	Emory & Judy Schwiderson	Jim Quinnell & Don Stevenson	Kristin Taylor
4/22/2018	Cindy Smith	Don Stirling & Family	Tim Storey	Carol Wallis
4/29/2018	R.B. Smith	Chuck & Mary Jane Bennin	Paul Harrison & Don Stirling	Denice Portice

We extend our sympathy to the families of Roger Clark, Dorla Parr, and Pete Thompson.



PRESBYTERY MEETING

For those of you planning to attend the February 10th stated Presbytery Meeting in Bellaire, there is a special mission at Church in the Hills called the Coat shed that they would like to invite you to and consider donating to.

The Coat Shed is a trailer filled with coats that are given to those in need. The Mission committee regularly takes the Coat Shed to the local food pantry and farm market and gives coats away to those in need. The Coat Shed also shows up at community celebrations like Light Up the Night and the Rubber Ducky Festival providing coats for those in need. Members of the community always know they can stop by during these times to find or donate a coat. At this time, children's winter coats are in high demand. Please consider being part of this community mission by bringing new or lightly used coats to donate to the Coat Shed. We encourage you to host your own church coat drive and bring the donations to Church in the Hills for the February 10th Presbytery meeting. Thanks for your consideration.

COMMUNITY NEWS

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

North Star Habitat for Humanity invites you to the Carpenters' Gala for an evening of dinner, music, dancing, and a silent auction. This event will take place at Lake Superior State University Cisler Center Ballroom on Saturday, February 24, 2018. Social hours will begin at 6:00 P.M. with dinner following at 7:00 P.M. Please see announcement on bulletin board for additional details.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARIES

2/1 Cara Franke
2/3 Valarie Hill
2/4 Bill Wallis
2/5 Travis Reich
2/6 Gabrielle Alter
Brooke Beacom
Drake Stec
2/7 Vance Barber
Kaitlyn Doyle
Xiatian Huyck
2/10 Jagger Ackerman
Sascha Kuenzer



2/12 Joel Blumenthal
Stacy MacDonald
Kristin Shriner
Tom Soeltner
2/16 Ione Barber
Tori Thurmes

2/17 John Bennin
Chris Smith
2/19 Kelly Barr
2/21 Jessie Rye
2/22 Sarah Fountain Garcia
(in memory)
2/23 Juanita Fountain
2/24 Katie Tominac
2/25 Sarah Allen
2/26 Avery Bosbous
2/27 Marty Feldhake
Luke Slater
2/28 Cindy Dodds
Teri Goug

Happy Anniversary!

2/15 Gerald & Sharon Cottle

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let Jessica Bjunes know.

CHURCH COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Following is a list of our church committees and their members.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

To Be Announced, Elder Representative
Shaunna MacDonald
Carol Wallis

MEMORIAL FUND:

To Be Announced, Elder Representative
Sharon Beacom
Cindy Smith
Carol Wallis

MEMBERSHIP AND MISSION:

To Be Announced, Elder Representative
Karen Rye
Gloria Smith

PROPERTIES:

To Be Announced, Elder Representative
Bob Rye, Chair
Paul Harrison
Jim Rye

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE:

To Be Announced, Elder Representative
Jessica Bjunes
Donna Liggett
Mary Jane Bennin

PERSONNEL:

Emory Schwiderson, Chair, Class of 2019
Denise Portice, Elder, Class of 2020
Jake Campbell, Class of 2021

AUDIT:

Joyce Smith, Class of 2019
Pat Hunter, Class of 2020
Sally Rye, Class of 2021

NOMINATING:

R.B. Smith, Elder Representative and Chair

Judy Schwiderson
Arlene Portice
Irene Nettleton
Dean Wise

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

To Be Announced, Elder Representative
Jill Halsey
Sarah Morrison

SESSION

Class of 2019

Elaine Slater
Jake Campbell
Denice Portice

Class of 2020

Valarie Hill
Pat Bennin
Christy Thurmes

Class of 2021

R.B. Smith
Roger Morrison
Bill Beacom

Pickford Presbyterian Church
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www.pickfordpresbyterian.org

Church Services: Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Children's Sunday School:
Immediately after Children's Sermon

Adult Sunday School: Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

The word "February" is written in a playful, bubbly font. The letters are filled with a gradient of pink and purple. The letter 'y' at the end has a white cross shape cut out of its center. The entire word has a dotted outline.

Receive this cross of ash upon your brow
Brought from the burning of Palm Sunday's cross;

...
But Hope could rise from ashes even now
Beginning with this sign upon your brow.

- Malcolm Guite