

The Prairie Press

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SCHOOLCRAFT, MICHIGAN

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Kim Maxam

PARISH NURSES

Sherrie Anderson,
Nikki Hulinek

TREASURER

John Barnett

WEB DESIGNER

Michelle Romstadt

CUSTODIAN

Marion Compton

"Our Farewell"

Just before we visited our daughters family in Panama City, Florida our grandchildren had just watched, for the first time, the Sound of Music with Julie Andrews playing the lead. The granddaughters fell in love with the music and loved to sing the songs. One of the songs was "So Long, Farewell". The lyrics go like this:

There's a sad sort of clanging from the clock in the hall
And the bells in the steeple too
And up in the nursery an absurd little bird
Is popping out to say "cuckoo"

Cuckoo, cuckoo

Regretfully they tell us (Cuckoo, cuckoo)
But firmly they compel us (Cuckoo, cuckoo)
To say goodbye

(Cuckoo!)

To you

So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, good night
I hate to go and leave this pretty sight

So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, adieu
Adieu, adieu, to yieu and yieu and yieu

So long, farewell, au revoir, auf wiedersehen
I'd like to stay and taste my first champagne

So long,...

Regretfully, our time has come to say goodbye to you, the good people of First Presbyterian Church of Schoolcraft. We have thoroughly enjoyed our time with you and believe we leave much richer because of the friendships and acquaintances we have made here in this place.

You have a long history of faithfully ministering in the community. 1849 is not a date any of us can recall as having personally lived. There have been many Christian Saints who have walked through the doors of this Church, people with a vision and a heart for Jesus Christ and the difference He makes in our lives. Our prayer is that this church will continue to be blessed by God and continue to serve in this community for another century and more. But the determination as to if that will happen will come as you remain open to what God is calling you to be and do.

Our thanks to all we have worked with over the course of our time here. We will continue to keep you all in prayer.

Dan and Renee Jelsma



APRIL SESSION NOTES

The April Session meeting was held on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at Westminster Hall with Moderator Rev. Dan Jelsma.

“How do we see God working in our Congregation?”

Many THANKS to Rev. Marilyn Schlimgen for filling our Pulpit recently.

First Person Sermons a blessing as many appreciate.

Over 40 signed up for the Maundy Thursday/Seder Supper.

The turnout and support for Henry Erdos Celebration of Life was a blessing.

Worship – Holy Communion was served to 37 people on April 7, 2019.

Pulpit Supply – Rev. Marilyn Schlimgen will be filling our Pulpit the month of May.

Lent - Maundy Thursday (April 18) will be a Seder Supper and Holy Communion and Easter Sunrise Service is at 7:30 a.m.

Christian Education – Sunday, May 26 will be last day for Sunday school. Teacher Appreciation will be Sunday, June 9, 2019.

Mission – One Great Hour of Sharing will continue to be collected through the month of April.

Buildings & Grounds – Spring Clean-Up is Saturday, May 4, 2019, starting at 10:00 a.m. Many hands will be needed to clean up the grounds and other tasks at Westminster Hall, Church and Manse. The Church front doors are in disrepair and Session is looking into replacing them.

Pastor's Report - Rev. Dan Jelsma and Candidate Renee' Jelsma are preparing for Holy Week: Seder Super/Maundy Thursday Service, Sunrise and Easter Services.

Other Business: Session has approved repairs/new parts for the Church sound system and “mics”. Kalamazoo Audio will be doing these repairs.



THE JOYS OF MOTHERHOOD

- A hug for no reason.
- Belly laughs.
- The light-bulb moment when your child understands something you've been trying to teach them.
- Smiles and giggles.
- Mud pies.
- Arms raised in the air after a big accomplishment.
- Hearing Scripture and prayer from your child's lips.
- Quiet moments on the couch.
- Reading aloud together.
- A family meal filled with conversation and laughter.
- Watching your child be kind to another.
- Recognizing a moment you'd like to freeze in time.
- A child's look of surprise and joy.
- A quiet conversation that heals a wounded heart.



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OUR CHURCH'S 1st QUARTER



FINANCIAL REPORT

	1st QUARTER	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Offerings & Pledges	\$19,900.00	\$22,374.00	\$(2,474.00)
All other Income	<u>\$18,292.00</u>	<u>\$2,480.00</u>	<u>\$15,812.00</u>
Total Income	\$38,192.00	\$24,854.00	\$13,338.00
All Expenses	<u>\$22,122.00</u>	<u>\$24,270.00</u>	<u>\$2,184.00</u>
Favorable (Unfavorable)	<u>\$16,070.00</u>	<u>\$584.00</u>	<u>\$15,486.00</u>

Some remarks to the above numbers:

Many thanks are due our Treasurer, John Barnett, and former Treasurer, Peg Crissman, for their work in bringing our accounting system up to it's present standard of excellence. Job well done!

Offerings and Pledges are below projections by (\$2,474.00) other income was \$13,338.00 greater than budgeted due to gifts, memorials and an investment gain.

If we were to leave out the \$15,812.00 that exceeded Budgeted Other Income then our overall financial results for the 1st quarter of 2019 were about as projected.

Our total invested cash reserves increased from \$75,348.00 at 31 Dec. 2018 to \$81,536.00 30 Mar. 2019.

Clyde Springer

Financial Elder

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

May



Christian
Education

5- Thomas Believes

Kim Maxam

12 -Breakfast with Jesus (Mother's Day)

Sherrie Anderson

19 -The Great Commision

Michelle Romstadt

26 -Jesus Ascends (Memorial Day Weekend)

Nikki & Abby Hulinek

MAY 2019

* Celebrating a birthday!



WED MAY 1
3:15pm Daisies Troop 80826 / Westminster Main Level

THURS MAY 2
* Andrew Parker

FRI MAY 3
11:00am Cedar Park Bible Study

SAT MAY 4
10:00am Spring Clean-Up

SUN MAY 5 - SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Liturgist: Nancy Rafferty
Usher/Greeter: Marguerite Clay, Chuck Miller
Coffee Hour: Peg Crissman, Janet Bresson
Counters: Roger Ericks, Clyde Springer
Sunday School: Kim Maxam
Communion: Team B: Sherrie Anderson(P), Deb Musselman, Clyde Springer, Roger Ericks
Nursery: Toni Rafferty

MON MAY 6
8:00am Men's Breakfast
 5:30pm Girl Scouts / Westminster Lower Level
 7:00pm Boy Scouts Pack 254 / Westminster Lower Level

WED MAY 8
3:15pm Daisies Troop 80826 / Westminster Main Level

FRI MAY 10
9-4 Village Garage Sale
* Betty Burch

SAT MAY 11
9-3 Village Garage Sale
* Dean Krum

SUN MAY 12 - MOTHER'S DAY

Liturgist: Dave Krum
Usher/Greeter: Robert Rainwater, Judy Linders
Coffee Hour: Jim & Rita Parker
Counters: Barbara Barnett, Marguerite Clay
Sunday School: Sherrie Anderson
Communion: N/A
Nursery: Sherrie Anderson

* Debbie Musselman, Matt Musselman, Marion Hobaugh, Nolan Strake, Shayla Strake

MON MAY 13
8:00am Men's Breakfast
 5:30pm Girl Scouts / Westminster Lower Level
 7:00pm Boy Scouts Pack 254 / Westminster Lower Level
 * John Bambacht

TUES MAY 14
7:00pm Session Meeting

WED MAY 15
3:15pm Daisies Troop 80826 / Westminster Main Level

FRI MAY 17
11:00am Cedar Park Bible Study

SAT MAY 18
* Hazel Jordan McNally

SUN MAY 19

Liturgist: Robert Rainwater
Usher/Greeter: Candy Shearer, Theo DeBoer
Coffee Hour: Skip & Jackie Fox
Counters: Michelle Romstadt, Clyde Springer
Sunday School: Michelle Romstadt
Communion: N/A
Nursery: Marguerite Clay

* Anna Jane Smith
 Parish Nurse's Blood Pressure Screenings

MON MAY 20
8:00am Men's Breakfast
 5:30pm Girl Scouts / Westminster Lower Level
 7:00pm Boy Scouts Pack 254 / Westminster Lower Level
 * Bob Crissman, Clare Gildea, Mike Linders

WED MAY 22
3:15pm Daisies Troop 80826 / Westminster Main Level

SUN MAY 26

Liturgist: Judy Linders
Usher/Greeter: Eric & Darcy Bolles
Coffee Hour: John & Barbara Barnett
Counters: Skip Fox, Roger Ericks
Sunday School: Nikki & Abby Hulinec
Communion: N/A
Nursery: Candy Shearer

MON MAY 27- Memory Day Observances
8:00am Men's Breakfast
 5:30pm Girl Scouts / Westminster Lower Level
 7:00pm Boy Scouts Pack 254 / Westminster Lower Level
 * Max Desmond

TUES MAY 28
* Theo DeBoer, Andrew Rafferty, Janet Bresson

WED MAY 29
3:15pm Daisies Troop 80826 / Westminster Main Level
* Chuck Miller

THURS MAY 30
* Elizabeth Shearer, Candy Shearer

PASSOVER CAKE RECIPE



Ingredients

- ¾ cup whole almonds
- 1 ½ cups sugar
- 1 ¼ cup all purpose flour
- ¼ tsp salt
- ½ tsp. cinnamon
- 8 eggs/separated
- 1/3 cup sweet wine or sherry
- 1/3 cup orange juice
- Powdered sugar
- Whipping cream/topping

Whirl almonds in blender until finely ground. Sift flour with salt and cinnamon into a bowl. Mix in the ground nuts. In a large bowl, beat egg whites with electric mixer until they hold short, distinct, moist looking peaks; set aside. Using the same beaters, beat egg yolks until thick; then gradually beat in the sugar. Stir in wine and orange juice. Add yolk mixture to the flour mixture. Folding until well blended. Add beaten whites and fold together gently and thoroughly.

Pour into an ungreased 9-10 tube pan (with removable bottom). Bake in a 325 degree oven until the top springs back when touched lightly, about 1 hour. Invert the pan until completely cooled. Sprinkle with powdered sugar and serve with whipped cream/topping.



SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER IS THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH



MAY IS NATIONAL ASTHMA/ALLERGY AWARENESS MONTH

Traveling With Asthma and Allergies

Thinking of traveling by plane or train? Or are you taking a road trip? Plan ahead so that asthma and allergies do not flare up during a special adventure.

According to the CDC, more than 26 million Americans have asthma and more than 50 million have allergies. Allergies and asthma are unique in that people with these diseases are dependent on the quality of the environment around them.

Before you travel, there are steps you can take to prepare for a safer, healthier trip.

Plan Before Your Trip

Prepare for your medical needs:

- *Refill your prescription medications and pick up over-the-counter medicines.
- *Create a list of your current medical conditions, medications, prescribing physician and dosage.
- *If you have asthma or severe allergies, consider ordering and wearing a medical identification bracelet.
- *Check with your allergist or doctor to discuss travel-related risks. Update your [Asthma Action Plan](#) or Allergy Action Plan.
- *Get your immunizations, especially [a flu shot](#).
- *Check your health insurance policy. Know in advance if your plan will cover doctor or emergency visits in other states or countries. If you have food allergies, be sure to have an allergy alert chef's card to help you alert restaurant staff about your allergies.
- *Check the weather and pollen forecast for your destination. Use services like [Accuweather](#) and [Pollen.com](#).

Traveling by air with pet or food allergy:

- *Call the airlines and explain your medical condition to their customer service representative. Find out the airline's policies on accommodations.
- *Pet allergy: Find out if the airline allows pets to travel in the passenger cabin. Ask if another passenger on the same flight has made reservations with a pet and if you can be seated away from the animal. Take note that federal law must allow service animals in passenger cabins. Additionally, all flights will have pet dander, even without pets in the plane. This is because pet dander gets on people's clothes.
- *Nut or other food allergy: Find out if the airline has a policy for food allergies. Ask if you can pre-board to wipe down your seat and tray table. Ask if the airline can create a buffer zone around your row. Ask if you can order a safe meal for your food allergy.

Traveling by car with pollen or mold allergy:

- *Service your vehicle to replace air filters and clean the ventilating and air conditioning system.

Traveling by train with pet or food allergy:

- *Find out if the train allows pets (in addition to service animals). Ask to be seated away from animals. If meals are served onboard, ask if they can accommodate food allergies. If not, make sure you can bring your own food.

Hotel stays:

- *Request a hotel room that is non-smoking, mold-free and pet-free.

Ask your hotel if they provide allergy-friendly rooms.

During Your Trip

- *Always carry your emergency medicines with you everywhere you go.
- *Know the nearest locations to seek medical treatment.
- *Avoid exposure to tobacco smoke.
- *During hot weather, people with asthma and allergies should stay hydrated and drink plenty of fluids.
- *Reduce your risk of respiratory infections by frequent hand washing and the use of hand sanitizers. Also, consider wearing a mask in public areas during flu season.
- *Travel by car: during high pollen or pollution times, travel with your windows rolled up and the air conditioning turned on. Be aware that some allergy medications cause drowsiness.
- *Travel by plane: ask if you can pre-board. Tell the flight attendants about your medical condition. Wipe down your armrests and tray tables. Avoid using airline pillows or blankets. If you have a food allergy, consider only eating food that you packed with you.

<http://www.aafa.org>

THANK YOU JELSMAS!



We thank Pastor Dan and Pastor Renee for their good care of us and our church from Sunday, December 9, 2018, through Tuesday, April 30, 2019, and we wish them well on their next journey of co-pastoring at Maplewood Reformed Church in Holland, Michigan. Their friendly smiles and easy-going conversations will be missed. We will especially remember their sociable get-acquainted dinners at the manse, their interesting and memorable first-person sermons, their many home visits with our ill and grieving, their special music, and the unforgettable Seder meal we were able to share with them at Westminster. We pray that the Lord watches over them and their family.

Thank you Pastors Dan and Renee!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENZIONE!



Mama Rafferloni's is coming soon! Please mark your calendars for Saturday, June 8, 2019. There will be 2 seatings- 4:45 and 6:30. Plan to join us for some delicious lasagna, spaghetti and all the rest.

Cost is \$7 per person/ \$18 per family.

Make your reservation with Nancy Rafferty or a Deacon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONT..

VILLAGE GARAGE SALE



Friday, May 10th and Saturday, May 11th.

It is that time of the year when we participate in the Community Garage Sale. This year the sale will be Friday, May 10th and Saturday, May 11th. Along with the garage sale we will be serving lunch at Westminster Hall. If you have items for the sale please call Linda Bosma 501-2361 or Jackie Skinner 679-5764 or 269-491-4597 and arrange a time they can meet you at the manse garage for drop off. You can also bring items to church on Sunday for the next two weeks.

Menu - \$5.00

Sloppy Joe or Grilled Cheese
Pickle spear
Bag of chips
Brownie
Water or Pop

We will start serving lunch
at 10:00am both days.

Hope you will join us!

**PARISH NURSES'
BLOOD
PRESSURE
SCREENING
SUNDAY,
MAY 19, 2019**



**April Guess Who?
Tim Hulinek**

MEMORIAL DAY

Our Soldiers and Their Lives and Ultimate Sacrifice are not Forgotten.

Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who died while serving in our country's armed forces – those who died while defending our nation and its values. (Veterans Day is a day to honor all who have served in the military, not just those who died while serving)

This Memorial Day Sunday, May 26, 2019, there will once again be a special insert in our church bulletin honoring those soldiers we in the congregation knew who gave their lives fighting for our country – our family and our friends.

There are forms in the back of the church you may use to write down the name(s) of the soldier(s) you wish to commemorate. The names on last year's list will again be listed this year, so there is no need to fill out the same information again. However, names of any additional soldier may be added to be remembered and honored. You may include the soldier's military rank and/or branch and war/conflict if you know it and his/her relationship to you.



PHOTO GALLERY INVITATION

We invite all from our congregation to submit photos from our church functions and ministries to appear in our monthly Prairie Pres newsletters.

Photos may be submitted to Kristi or Pastors Dan & Renee. Please remember that photos of children will appear in the Photo Gallery only if the parents have submitted a Picture Release form.

All photos will **only** be sent out in the Prairie Pres to our members and friends. We will be posting the Prairie Pres on our Website at (www.schoolcraftfirst.wordpress.com) without the Photo Gallery.

