



First Presbyterian Church
of Elk Rapids

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Rev. Jim Porter, Senior Pastor
Rev. Sandra Murray, Parish Associate
Cheryl Knight, Director of Music Ministries
Melanie Stoll, Contemporary Worship Leader
Wayne Potter, Director of Youth and Family Life Ministries

September 15, 2019

MEDITATION TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS
AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

*Gracious God, when our spirits lift at the beauty
of the day, you are Lord; and when chaos
threatens to overwhelm and we dread the next
news cycle -- still, you are Lord. Always you are
creating, redeeming, sustaining.*

*Speak then your mercy into this place until we
discover the courage to open our eyes, unclench
our hands, and move toward our neighbor in
need, until all the world rises and moves with the
rhythm of your grace; for we long to honor the
name of Jesus, by whose breath we pray. Amen.*

Our Mission

Introduce Jesus Christ to those who do not know Him;
Deepen the faith and commitment of those who already know Him;
Demonstrate Christ's way of love in service to the world.

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Traditional Worship – 9:00 AM

* Signifies the congregation may stand as able. | Please silence all electronic devices.

Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church!

If you do not have a church home in the area, we invite you to make our church yours. Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbor so you can get acquainted.



We encourage you to take a moment to check in on Facebook.

PREPARING

THE PRELUDE – “*Hine Ma Tov*”
“*If Ye Love Me*”

by Naplan
by Tallis

WELCOME

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Joanne Teague

*GREETING EACH OTHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE

RINGING OF THE HISTORIC CHURCH BELL AND
LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

LeRue Werner

Leader: Come! Come, all you who are seeking God. Come! Enter in to this place of protection and comfort and discover that God is seeking us!

People: We rejoice to have God find us here, as we come seeking God!

Leader: Come! Come in and experience God’s joy when we come together.

All: Here in this sanctuary we worship, and meet God!

*OPENING HYMN 1 – *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (followed by silent confessions) LeRue Werner

Leader: O Most Patient God, we recognize how much we need you for life itself.

People: But how often have we behaved as if we did not know or even care about you?

Leader: How often have we become the ones who do not carry out justice?

People: How often have we tried to dominate others even as you stand with them?

Leader: How often have we participated in the destruction of your creation by our treatment of the heavens, the earth and its waters?

People: Forgive us for these times when we have lost our way.

Leader: Know, All-Loving God, that we want to be among those whom you seek.

People: Shower your mercy upon us.

All: Find us, and lead us safely home to faithfulness. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – *Kyrie*

**Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

LeRue Werner

Leader: My friends, when we are lost, all is not lost. God is seeking us, ready to turn our lives around, gathering us in to the people of God. Let us rejoice in God's mercy!

All: Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.**

CHORAL ANTHEM – “*Blessed Be Your Name*”

by McDonald

PROCLAIMING

SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 15:1-10 (pg. 78NT)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Welcome Home!
Disciples Seek People for Christ and Church”

Rev. Jim Porter

RESPONDING

*RESPONSIVE HYMN 695 – *Change My Heart, O God*

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Jim Lagowski

OFFERTORY – *"I Will Come to You"*

by Haas

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: We rejoice and give you thanks, O God, for the lost have been found, sinners have received mercy, and the dead have been restored to life. Send us out in your service to tend your sheep and show the riches of your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*CONCLUDING HYMN 306 – *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

Leader: In the coming week what does God call us to do?

People: We are called to: Introduce Jesus Christ to those who do not know Him; deepen the faith and commitment of those who already know Him; and demonstrate Christ's way of love in service to the world.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE – *"Let There Be Peace On Earth"*

THE POSTLUDE – *"Majesty"*

arr. by Leatherman

WORSHIP CONCLUDES—SERVICE BEGINS!

WORSHIP NOTES

Welcome friends. If you are a guest, please take a moment to sign the Friendship Pad at the end of each pew, and include a phone number or email address so we can acknowledge your visit today. We hope your worship experience is meaningful and uplifting. Meet new friends at “Fellowship Hour” in the narthex before and after worship. Also, be sure to pick up a “Welcome” folder from our guest table also located in the narthex.

Child care. Qualified caregivers welcome infants and children through 4 years old.



We have an induction hearing loop system for hearing aid users. Please switch hearing aids to “T” or see the sound technician for help.

Large print bulletins and hymn sheets available from an usher.

Thank you. Special thanks to our greeters: Lynne & Len Sheldon; ushers: Connie & Dick Claar; fellowship hour: Fellowship Team; and snack volunteers: Betty Tezak and Fellowship Team.

Prayer requests: Don & Sandy Davids’ granddaughter Alexa, Karyl Mangus’ granddaughter Jessica, Donald Kinloch, Olivia Lein, Suzanna Lein, Mike Cameron, Caleigh Gordon (Former Eagle Village resident), Nash Nichols (Tom & Diane Thompson’s grandson), Denise Elmi’s son Josh, Ron Dunbar, Len Sheldon, Terry Hogarth, Sarah Hulwick’s brother Josh, Roger Gehrt, Mary Sawyer’s friend Mac, Mary Sawyer’s friend Brady, Keith Hubbell (Gary’s brother), and Presbyterian Church of Hessel.

Chancel flowers are placed by Jim Lagowski & Eunice Thompson in celebration of their 85th birthday year.

Chancel flowers are placed by your church family in celebration of Pastor Jim’s first year.

*Thank
you*

Thank you for the cards, prayers, and wonderful luncheon that was put on at the church. We love and appreciate you all.

~ LaCorda and the Family of Richard Smith

This Week's Activities

Sun. 9/15

- 9 a.m. Traditional Service
- 10 a.m. Reception for Celebrating Pastor Jim's First Year
- 10 a.m. SS/Youth & Adult Class
- 11 a.m. Contemporary Service

Mon. 9/16

Tues. 9/17

- 9 a.m. Men's Group
- 10 a.m. Bible Girls

Wed. 9/18

- 9 a.m. Bulletin Items Due
- 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice

Thurs. 9/19

- 9 a.m. Session Reports Due
- 7 p.m. Rotary Rehearsal-Sanctuary

Fri. 9/20

- 8:30 a.m. Community Cupboard
- 9 a.m. Session Packets Distributed
- 7 p.m. David Chown Concert in Sanctuary

Next Week's Activities

Sun. 9/22

- 9 a.m. Traditional Service
- 10 a.m. SS/Youth & Adult Class
- 11 a.m. Contemporary Service

Mon. 9/23

- 9 a.m. PEO
- 5 p.m. Safety Team Training

Tues. 9/24

- 10 a.m. Bible Girls

Wed. 9/25

- 9 a.m. Bulletin Items Due
- 9 a.m. Flu Shot Clinic-Fellowship Hall
- 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice
- 7 p.m. Session Meeting

Thurs. 9/26

- 7 p.m. Rotary Rehearsal-Sanctuary

Fri. 9/27

- 8:30 a.m. Community Cupboard
- 7 p.m. David Chown Concert in Sanctuary

Sat. 9/28

- 8:30 a.m. Safety Team Training

What's Happening

Reception Honoring Pastor Jim's First Year - Today

The Fellowship Team invites everyone to a reception honoring Pastor Jim's first year with our church today at 10 a.m. between services in the narthex. Please come and celebrate with us!

"Seamless" - September 8-October 13, 10:15-11AM

Whether you've grown up learning Bible stories or you're exploring Scripture for the first time, this class is for you. In 6 sessions, "Seamless" covers key people, places and promises of the Bible, tying them together into one beautiful, seamless thread.

Class runs September 8 through October 13, 10:15-11 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Having taught this excellent class twice before, Pam Shuler has agreed to teach it again. Using pictures, maps, dvd and books, Pam will capture your attention and interest as she helps you see the big picture of Scripture. Books are available. A donation of \$10 will be appreciated but not required. Everyone is welcome to attend!

David Chown, Jazz Pianist - September 20 at 7PM

Friday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Call Melanie for information at 231-392-1862.

Flu Clinic - September 25 at 9AM in Fellowship Hall

Rite Aid is coming to give flu shots. Call Melanie (231-392-1862) to learn how to sign up. She will give you an email/phone for Rite Aid. You will need insurance information. Let them know if you want shingles vaccine too. Sign up soon - spots are limited.

Nursery Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to help in the nursery occasionally on Sunday mornings or at special events. If you are willing to help, please sign up at the Activity Center. Call Amber Hoeksema at 231-313-0342 with questions.

"Wired Word" - Wednesdays, Sept. 18, Oct. 2 & 16

"Wired Word," our popular discussion of topics in current events is returning, Wednesday evenings, 6-7:30 p.m., September 18, October 2 and 16 at the Hacienda. Don't miss these thought-provoking discussions!

Dementia Care Talk - Tuesday, October 8 at 6:30PM

Join Deb Gamelin on Tuesday, October 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lighthouse. Deb will talk about her experiences and research to help you work with a loved one with dementia.

*Thank
you!*

Thank you everyone for your participation in the Photo Directory! Most churches have between 35 and 40% participation and we had over 65% with over 120 families getting their photos taken. We had a very successful 3 days! You should be receiving your

photos directly from the company in the mail in about 3-4 weeks.

Our directories will be here at the end of October. A special thank you to all of the people who help make this such a success:

Lorraine Berak, Mary Anne Frey, Rosy Moran, Marilyn Nussdorfer, Jan and Don Shurte, Lorna Corso, Gail Halliday, Lori Caruso, Robyn Osterhaven, and of course our great administrative assistant, Ellen, who worked so hard on the addresses and phone numbers.

Thank you one and all. ~ Marcia and Garry Sumerix

Stewardship Packets

Stewardship packets and pledge cards are available at the Activity Center for anyone who did not receive one or would like another.

Pepper Spray Training - Saturday, October 5 at 9AM

Anyone who would like to learn how to use pepper spray is invited to attend a short training session with our local police department on Saturday, October 5 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your own pepper spray

Men's Fellowship Service Group

All men are invited to meet on the first and second Tuesday mornings of each month (this month September 10 & 17 because of Labor Day) from 9 a.m. to about 11 a.m. for fellowship and service to the church through work projects. Please contact Wayne Shuler at 231-599-2480 or wshuler2480@gmail.com for details.

Fall Work Camp at Presbytery Point - September 28-October 5

Volunteers of all ages and skill levels are welcome to help at Presbytery Point Camp September 28-October 5. Let them know you are planning to help for the day, night or multiple days by emailing director@presbyterypoint.org or calling 906-8690-0925.



Thank You for Presbytery Point Camp Donations


Thank you to everyone who brought in donations for Presbytery Point Camp. Bill Clark, Dale Wagner and Pastor Jim will take the donations from our church to the camp on September 20 for the Presbytery Meeting. The campers will be blessed by your generosity.

Contemporary Worship Service – 11:00 AM

Please silence all electronic devices.

Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church!

If you do not have a church home in the Elk Rapids area, we invite you to make our church yours. We are an open congregation and we welcome you. Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbor so you have an opportunity to get acquainted.

 *We encourage you to take a moment to check in on Facebook.*

Fellowship & Refreshments in Narthex

ADORE

GREETING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Joanne Teague

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Jim Lagowski

WORSHIP SONGS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Jim Porter

LEARN

SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 15:1-10

MESSAGE:

“Welcome Home!
Disciples Seek People for Christ and Church”

Rev. Jim Porter

NEXT STEPS

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

OUR RESPONSE: GIVING, CHILDREN'S & PRAYER STATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING

CLOSING SONG

VISION

BENEDICTION

WORSHIP CONCLUDES—SERVICE BEGINS!

Thank you. Special thanks to our volunteers from last week - Anne Conrad provided snacks and Jan & Gary Burns ushered.

Nursery is in the lower level. Nursery age children, infants and children through 4 years old can be dropped off and picked up by parents or a responsible adult.

Worship through your gifts: You may offer a gift during the 'Next Steps' portion of the service. A box is located in the front of the church for your offering.