



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 29, 2019

MEDITATION TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

*Loving God, giver of all good gifts,
you have created us for life together,
and in Christ you have revealed to
us that the true riches of faith are
good works, generosity, and a desire
to serve. Strengthen us this day to
pursue all righteousness, godliness,
and love with perseverance and
gentleness, that we may take hold of
the life that is really life, and dwell
with you eternally. 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 — “*Melody in F*” by Rubinstein
Flautist: Jan Johnson

WELCOME

*GREETING EACH OTHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE

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

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP Sandi Gray

Leader: The word has come for us from God:

**People: who promises to shelter us under the wings of hope
and grace.**

Leader: The word has come to us from Jesus:

**People: who encourages us to remember the good news we
have received.**

Leader: The word flows to us from the Spirit:

All: who reminds us to place our hope and trust in God.

*OPENING HYMN 612 — *We Praise You, O God*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (followed by silent confessions)

Sandi Gray

All: Merciful God, you have called us to live in sincere faith and to follow Jesus as his disciples. Yet, we confess that we do not come before you with a clear conscience. Our faith is clouded by sin and uncertainty. We shrink from your call to live sacrificially on behalf of others. Too quickly, we seek our own ease and comfort first. We confess that in our own lives, and in the church, we rely on our power rather than yours.

Forgive us, we pray, for we are fractured and fearful disciples. Take away from us a spirit of cowardice, and restore to us the spirit of power rightly used, of love unconditionally offered, and of self-discipline gracefully lived. In new mercy, forgive us and increase our faith, that we may be faithful servants at your table. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – *Kyrie*

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

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Sandi Gray

Leader: The power of God, has saved us: grace is given to us in Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light.

All: Thanks be to God.

*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.

MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN

Wayne Potter

Director of Youth & Family Life Ministries

CHORAL ANTHEM – *“Thanks Be to God”*

by Allen

PROCLAIMING

SCRIPTURE READING – 2 Timothy 1:1-14 (pg. 211 NT)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Disciples Share Their Faith”

Rev. Jim Porter

RESPONDING

*RESPONSIVE HYMN 757 – *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

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 – *“We Thank You, Lord”*

arr. by Besig

*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: God who gives life to all things, and richly provides us with everything, use these, our offerings, to take hold of, and show us, the life that really is. Amen.

*CONCLUDING HYMN 716 – *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*
Everyone is invited to come forward to place their pledge card for 2020 in the basket on the communion table.

*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 – *“No Other Name”*

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: Connie & Dick Claar; ushers: Lori & Paul Caruso; and fellowship hour: 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), Caroline Dixon, Nilah Farmer, Edson Murray, and First Presbyterian Church of Iron County, Iron River.

Chancel arrangement is placed by Jan Johnson. The communion table is always about reminding us of our holy God’s grace and our needs as loved sinners. That we’re connected to His magnificent grandeur and glory also brings one opportunity to express gratitude on this Harvest Celebration Sunday!

Thank You!

Dear Church Family, thank you for remembering me at the 90th birthday party. (My “Natal Day” was actually last January.) I so enjoyed your cards and notes. Their sentiments brightened my day. I hope to see you all soon. ~ Most sincerely, Joyce Simmons

Congratulations to Bill Clark - New Moderator of Our Presbytery
Bill was installed as the moderator of the Mackinac Presbytery in the September meeting and will serve as moderator for the next year.

Ceiling Fluorescent Lights from Fellowship Hall Available Free
The Men’s Group replaced the ceiling lights in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like two to four of the old lights, please contact Wayne Shuler at 231-599-2480 or wshuler2480@gmail.com.

This Week's Activities

Sun. 9/29 - Harvest Celebration Sunday

- 9 a.m. Traditional Service
- 10 a.m. Youth Brunch
- 10 a.m. Adult Class
- 10 a.m. Hospitality MT
- 11 a.m. Contemporary Service

Mon. 9/30

Tues. 10/1

- 9 a.m. Men's Group
- 10 a.m. Bible Girls
- 10 a.m. Outreach MT
- 6:30 p.m. Endowment MT

Wed. 10/2

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

Thurs. 10/3

Fri. 10/4

- 8:30 a.m. Community Cupboard
- 3 p.m. Youth Movie @ LH

Sat. 10/5

- 9 a.m. Pepper Spray Training

Next Week's Activities

Sun. 10/6

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

Mon. 10/7

- 1 p.m. Worship MT
- 5:30 p.m. Personnel MT
- 5:30 p.m. Youth MT
- 6:30 p.m. Children's Ed. MT

Tues. 10/8

- 9 a.m. Men's Group
- 10 a.m. Bible Girls
- 6:30 p.m. Dementia Talk @ LH

Wed. 10/9

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

Thurs. 10/10

- 5:30 p.m. Fellowship MT

Fri. 10/11

Sat. 10/12

- 9 a.m. All Ministry Team Budget Planning Meeting

What's Happening

Youth Brunch - Today

There will be a youth brunch in the Fellowship Hall today from 10:00—11:00 a.m. There will be no youth group or Sunday School classes to allow everyone to enjoy the brunch. The cost for your meal is a donation to the youth group.

“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 through October 13, 10:15 -11 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Men's Fellowship Service Group - Tuesdays in Sept. & Oct.

Due to the number of projects, the Men's Group will be meeting every Tuesday morning during September and October from 9 a.m. to about 11 a.m. All men are invited for fellowship and service to the church through work projects. Please contact Wayne Shuler at 231-599-2480 or wshuler2480@gmail.com for details.

“Wired Word” - Wednesdays, Oct. 2 & 16

“Wired Word,” our popular discussion of topics in current events is returning, Wednesday evenings, 6-7:30 p.m., 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.

SINGERS! Christmas cantata rehearsals will begin Sunday, October 6 at our church at 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Calling all singers to join us to praise the Lord and sing a joyful noise this holiday season. Concert date, Saturday, December 21 at 4:00 p.m. Call Cheryl Knight with questions at 231-409-3316.

Presbyterian Women Unite: October 2, cookies are needed, singers and nurturing loving members who will visit with and celebrate birthdays with the Meadowbrook residents. Call Cheryl Knight if available at 231-409-3316

Christmas Tea - Thursday, December 5

Christmas Tea is on for Thursday, December 5. Hoping to hear from some of you ladies who would like to help plan this fun event. Call Cheryl Knight at 231-409-3316! (I am gone October 7-26, so please don't give up contacting me!)

Stewardship Packets

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

THESE DAYS devotional booklets for October through December 2019 have arrived and are on the Welcome table in the narthex.

The Community Cupboard needs your receipts from Village Market for the Community Cash program. Thanks to those who are already participating. Let's all help our Community Cupboard by bringing in our receipts!

TREASURER REPORT

Through 8.31.19

Contributions	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Pledge Giving	\$258,452	\$250,653
Unpledged	\$ 43,322	\$ 40,674
Designated Giving	\$ 26,800	\$ 26,800
Other Income	\$ 4,402	\$ 3,333
Total Income	\$332,976	\$321,460
Expenses	\$326,931	\$323,061
Gain/(Loss)	\$ 6,045	

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.

Guitar Sunday - October 27

Sunday, October 27 is Guitar Sunday in the 11 a.m. service. Bring your guitar and join us at Wednesday, October 23, 6:30 p.m. rehearsal. All levels are welcome. See or call Mel Stoll (231-392-1862) for details.

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.

Candy Donations for Halloween Event

We are looking for candy donations for our upcoming Halloween event at the Lighthouse on October 31. We have placed a box in the narthex for your donations. Thank you for supporting this community event!

Family Worship Night - Friday, October 18


Mark your calendar now and plan to join us on Friday, October 18 for dinner from 6-7 p.m. and worship at 7 p.m. This service is family centered and interactive worship for all ages. You won't want to miss this evening of contemporary worship.

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 STEWARDSHIP

Jim Lagowski

WORSHIP SONGS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Wayne Potter

LEARN

SCRIPTURE READING – 2 Timothy 1:1-14

MESSAGE: “Disciples Share Their Faith”

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

Everyone is invited to come forward to place their pledge card for 2020 in the basket on the communion table.

VISION

BENEDICTION

WORSHIP CONCLUDES—SERVICE BEGINS!

Thank you. Special thanks to our volunteers from last week - Christine Butler provided snacks and John, Erin & Madelyn Conrad ushered.

Nursery is in the lower level. 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.