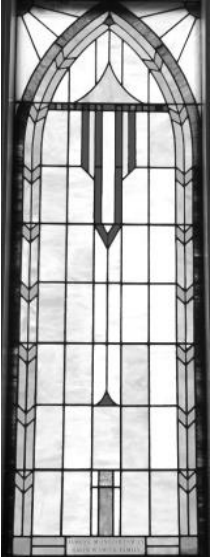


Taymouth Tidings



“Silence is Golden”

I have always been told Lent is a time for a person to accept the challenge of suffering. Suffer during Lent is a way for people to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of what Jesus' own suffering may have been. One way that some people accomplish this is through giving up something for Lent which brings pleasure. Another way is for others is to take on something new and different for Lent to create tension in one's life and schedule.

I have seen both models being lived out. Some people give up pleasurable things like certain food and beverage items, hobbies, watching television, going to the movies, and playing video games. Other people will take on additional aspects of life which will create personal inconvenience by giving themselves in service to others like volunteering at charitable organizations, or becoming socially involved as advocates addressing issues like homelessness, human-trafficking, and world peace. In one way or another I have found both approaches can be effective in achieving a

base line of what it may mean to suffer and to empathize with Jesus' own suffering.

Many years ago while attending college, I experienced a base line of what suffering looked like and meant for me. During Lent, I attended a personal retreat at a Trappist monastery known as the Abbey of Gethsemani located in Trappist, Kentucky. For one whole week, I put into practice what the Trappist monks preached at the monastery which was silence, prayer, and hard work. These three values have helped me to formulate over time what Lent itself is. It is not just the 40 days before Easter (minus Sundays), but Lent is 365 days of the year. Lent is the Christian life being lived out in the fullness of what Christ expects each one of us to be. By living out these Trappist values, I discovered my particular element of suffering. Now, I had no difficulty in praying and working hard, because my work for the week was to walk continuously on the abbey's grounds and pray while reading Scripture. The challenge for me was to be silent in the midst of all this.

Silence is golden if you can endure the temptations from talking aloud with others. My reading of Scripture and the saying of my prayers were all done in silence. I could not read aloud. I could not pray aloud. The only time I heard a human voice or human voices was during morning and evening vespers. I ate and slept in silence. To say the least, it was an experience which turned my soul inside out. It was like being turned upside down. Through silence I began to become aware of who I am and who God is. Silence is golden if you can endure the temptation of talking to yourself. In sounds of silence I heard God's voice in the midst of my pounding heart. It was like two bass drumsticks beating my heart. I could hear my whole body breathe as if God was giving Adam and Eve their very first breaths of life. Silence is golden if you let God be present. The Lenten challenge for me is to create suffering by becoming silent and listening to God in silence. Silence is golden if you listen to God.

I invite you to discover in your own way either by giving up something for Lent, or by adding on something new for Lent to create an opportunity for developing a greater understanding what suffering may be, especially, as it relates to Jesus' own suffering. Lent is a time of deep reflection where silence is golden.

Shalom,

Pastor Scott

MARCH 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1.	2.
3. 9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion. 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School. 11:00 a.m. Worship Committee Meeting.	4.	5. 7:00 p.m. Building & Grounds Meeting.	6. 12:00 p.m. Bible Study. 6:00 p.m. Lenten Potluck /Ash Wednesday/Holy Communion. 8:00 p.m. Choir.	7.	8.	9.
10. 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School.	11.	12. 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting. 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting.	13. 12:00 p.m. Bible Study. 6:00 p.m. Lenten Potluck. 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service. 8:00 p.m. Choir.	14.	15. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Church Family Game Night.	16.
17. 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School.	18.	19.	20. 12:00 p.m. Bible Study. 6:00 p.m. Lenten Potluck. 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service. 8:00 p.m. Choir.	21. Newsletter Deadline.	22.	23.
24. 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School. 11:00 a.m. Mission Committee Meeting.	25.	26. 1:00 p.m. Presbyterian Women Meeting.	27. No Bible Study this week. Pastor at COM Meeting. 6:00 p.m. Lenten Potluck. 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service. 8:00 p.m. Choir.	28. 11:00 a.m. Funeral Committee Meeting.	29.	30.
31.						



MISSION COMMITTEE NEWS:

By the time you read this newsletter you have probably already completed the **"MISSION JOURNEY"**. When all of the money have been tallied, you will be advised of the total. Hopefully this has been a journey that you enjoyed. The fund from this journey will be split 50-50 with our church and Brian's House in Essexville, Michigan. Brian's House was started in honor of their son. The home is self supportive and provides quality end-of life care. Next month we should be able to report the financial findings of this event.

On Sunday, March 3, 2019 we will be starting a new Missions project called **"SECRET PRAYER PAL "** (this is like a secret pal). You will fill out a card with your name and address . If there are more than one person in your home, fill out a card for each person. Parents with young children are to choose if they want them to participate. This card will be placed in a basket with all the other members in attendance that day. During the worship service, these cards will be distributed to those who filled out a card. You are not to receive your own card nor tell anyone whose name you received. Starting with Ash Wednesday (March 6, 2019) you are to pray daily for this person. At the end of the Lenten Season, you may mail your prayer person a card to let them know you have been praying for them. You can sign your name to the card or keep it a secret, this is your choice. If you know you are not going to be in attendance on March 3 and would like to participate, please let a Mission Committee Member know and we will make arrangements for you.

The items from the **"COMMUNION FOOD DRIVE"** have been delivered. Pastor Scott and I (Bonnie Pratt) delivered them on February 6th. We were given the opportunity to see how Ss Francis and Clare Parish Food Pantry of Birch Run works. There is a need in our community for this food pantry and it was nice to see how it works. Remember we are collecting food on the dates we have communion in our church. Items however can be dropped off anytime.

All items collected will be delivered following the communion date.

Remember to mark your calendar for May 5, 2019 that will be the **"MISSION MARKETPLACE"**. This event will be held in the fellowship hall following morning worship. You still have time to share your talent and make something for this event. There will be a live auction, silent auction and also priced items for sale. All the funds raised from this event go towards mission work.

The Mission Committee is so thankful for the member of our church family that help support the event we sponsor.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS:

Presbyterian Women will meet on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 1:00 in the fellowship hall. This will be the first meeting for 2019. Hope to see you there.



LENTEN SERVICES AND POTLUCK SUPPER:

All are invited to attend Wednesday nights Lenten Service/ Devotional Study entitled, "Behold the Man." This study will reflect upon Jesus' humanity, and upon our own humanity. Our church's Lenten tradition begins with a potluck supper beginning at 6:00 p.m., followed by the study beginning at 7:00 p.m. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 6th with the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. See you on Wednesday nights for fellowship, prayer, and study.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS:

"Come follow me!" If Jesus said this to you right now, would you drop everything and follow him? Would you trust Him to provide all your needs? The disciples showed us that following Jesus is all about faith. There will be moments of excitement, fear, fun, and thankfulness. Just like going on a river adventure, sometimes the water will be rough. When we do decide to be a disciple, God will always be with us!

Jesus said; "Come, follow me, and I'll show you how to fish for people".

God Bless!

Dawn Patrick

Men's Ministry

MEN'S MINISTRY:

Please reserve the date of Friday, March 15, for a Church family game night sponsored by the Men's Club. Bring your favorite games to play, bring your family and friends, and a snack to pass. Any Questions, speak with Rob Minard at 989.777.6789.

CONFIRMATION CLASS:

On Saturday, April 6th, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00p.m. Pastor Scott will be leading a Confirmation Class for Sr. High level youth (9th-12th grades) at the church. The youth will explore and learn about the meaning of church membership, and the different aspects of our Presbyterian heritage, history, theology, the Bible. Pizza will be served for lunch. These youth who wish to join the church will be confirmed on Palm Sunday, April 14th, during worship. Contact Pastor Scott or Dawn Patrick for more information.



ADULT "Sack Lunch" BIBLE STUDY:

Bible study will be held **Wednesdays from Noon-1:00pm, except on the fourth Wednesday.** On the fourth Wednesday there will be no Bible Study, because Pastor Scott attends the Commission on Ministry meeting at the Presbytery Office. Please bring a sack lunch and study the Bible with Pastor Scott. Invite a friend. During the Season of Lent, the Bible study will focus on Paul's Letter to the Philippians. The study is entitled "Because of this I Rejoice."



PRAYER CIRCLE:

Cindy Rabe has organized a "Prayer Circle" for anyone interested. The prayer request information is conveyed by telephone and your prayers at home would include these special intentions. If you have a special prayer request for yourself or a loved one, or if you would like to join the circle, please contact Cindy at 624-9274, or you may call her cell phone if unable to reach her at home, (989) 798-5797.



CHOIR NEWS:

Do you like sing in the shower or going down the road in the car? Then you have the skills we are looking for. Come and join us on Wednesday evenings @ 7:00 p.m. to put your skills/talent to work. Please see Heidi our Church's Choir Director. Please note that choir practice during Lent will be starting closer to 8:00 p.m.

GET READY FOR APRIL:

Easter is almost upon us which means Fish Fry. Mark your calendars with these dates, times, and events of Holy Week and beyond. More information to come in April Newsletter:

- Palm Sunday/Youth Confirmation- April 14th- regular worship time- 9:30 a.m.
- Maundy Thursday Service- April 18th- Taymouth Presbyterian Church-7:00 p.m.
- Good Friday Service- April 19th-Christ Lutheran Church-7:00 p.m.
- Children's Easter Egg Hunt-April 20th- 10:00 a.m.
- Easter Sunrise Service-April 21st-7:00 a.m.
- Easter Traditional Service-April 21st-9:30 a.m.
- Easter Continental Breakfast-April 21st- 7:00 a.m.
- Annual Fish Fry-Friday-April 26th-11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.



NEW POLICY FOR CHURCH FUNERAL DINNERS:

At its monthly meeting in March 2018, the Session adopted a new funeral lunch/dinner policy. The new policy states that there will be a \$3.00 charge per person for a funeral meal to be served to them. This charge is to take effect immediately. This charge will hopefully cover the cost of food, and paper products (e.g. napkins, plates, cups, and plastic eating utensils) used for the meal.

Also, the Session approved upon the recommendation of the church's Funeral Committee (Sharon Leach, Chair; Cindy Maher, Meal Coordinator; Kay Blessing; Bonnie Pratt; Jeff Reed) that a standardized menu be used in preparing the funeral meals. The menu will basically consist of ham and other major food dishes designated and assigned by the funeral meal coordinator, Cindy Maher, and to be cooked in the church's own kitchen. Desserts will be donated by church members and friends. Cindy Maher will contact individuals to make desserts. Hopefully, by preparing the funeral meals in the church's kitchen with a designated work crew, the church will become more efficient in utilizing its resources in the areas of manpower and kitchen facility. The purpose of this new policy is to help cover the cost of the meal, and to streamline the food preparation process. Please know that when a funeral lunch or dinner is being served in the church's fellowship hall there is a janitorial fee of \$50.00 to be paid by the family to the church.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Sharon Leach (989) 295-1116, Chair of the Funeral Committee, and Clerk of Session.



OLD SCRAP DRIVE:

The church will be collecting any old scrap from now until June 8, 2019. Any metal you may have sitting around your house, yard, or elsewhere that you need to clear? All scrap Metals, Tin, Steel, Aluminum, Old Appliances, Batteries, Motors, Water Heaters, and more. If you have any you would like to donate please contact Jason Reed at 989.522.4950. Thank you.



SNOW REMOVAL VOLUNTEERS:

Now with the winter months upon us the church needs help in removing snow from the sidewalks, walk ways and entry ways into and out of the church. Please sign up on the list posted in the kitchen on the bulletin board for a week of snow shoveling duty if you are able. Thank you



PRESBYTERY'S PER CAPITA:

WHAT IS PER CAPITA?

Fair question. Let's attempt to answer it.

PER CAPITA has been part of our funding history for over 150 years. When presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly meet, they are conducting the legislative and judicial business of the church and incur necessary expenses. There are also some necessary administrative expenses involved which enable these ecclesiastical, legislative, and judicial functions to be performed. Historically, per capita has been used to fund these. Importantly, per capita funding enables governing councils to make decisions regarding distribution of mission dollars without itself being funded by those same dollars.

The whole church shares in these expenses since everyone who is a member shares in the benefits of this system of church government. Per capita provides for the financial participation of all local churches as part of a connectional and representative church, thus providing for unity and mutual responsibility within the church.

PER CAPITA

General Assembly	\$8.95
Synod	\$3.25
Presbytery	\$16.57
Total per member	\$28.77

TO BE COLLECTED IN 2019

Presbytery of Lake Huron	\$120,033.08
Synod of the Covenant	\$23,543.00
General Assembly	\$64,833.80
Total	\$208,409.88

HOW IS PER CAPITA COMPUTED?

The Per Capita Apportionment in the Presbytery of Lake Huron is based on a portion of certain salaries and expenses which are part of the operating expenses of the Presbytery.

Per Capita is the cost of being a Presbyterian, and if each member pays the per capita amount above his/her pledge or regular giving, pressure on the local budget is reduced.

Paying per capita is similar to:

- contributing one's dish to a potluck meal
- paying to be connected to the internet
- paying for the benefit of utilities, such as electricity, gas, water
- pitching in with others to pay for gasoline on a road trip

In order to keep presbytery's per capita rate from escalating the per capita portion of the budget is subsidized with a distribution from Presbytery's investments.

WHERE DO OUR PER CAPITA DOLLARS GO?

The amount that is set for per capita apportionment is a calculation based on the number of church members and the budget established annually by each governing body. At the presbytery level per capita pays for a number of items including:

- *the mortgage payment on the presbytery office*
- *the office of the Stated Clerk including his salary and that of the Recording Clerk*
- *salaries of the Financial Secretary, Treasurer and the Administrative Assistant*
- *insurance coverage, legal counsel, annual audit costs associated with operating the presbytery office*
meeting costs for our standing units

ABOUT CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Membership with First Presbyterian church of Taymouth is for anyone who acknowledges Jesus Christ as their Lord and accepts him as their Savior. An invitation to join with us is cordially extended to any person who wishes to join us in glorifying God and building friendships with other followers of Christ. Please contact Pastor Scott about membership classes.

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE WHEN:

- ☞ You or a member of your family is (or when you know of someone in the congregation who has been) hospitalized, ill, injured, suffering hardship or is in distress;
- ☞ You need to schedule/reschedule a committee or church group meeting;
- ☞ You have important news or information to share with the whole church family (births, marriages, deaths, new addresses or phone numbers, employment, etc.);
- ☞ You need to submit information for a worship bulletin, newsletter, or the website;
- ☞ You have information related to meetings, special mailings, or church activities;
- ☞ You have information related to community events and happenings that might be relevant to the life and ministry of the congregation.

THANK YOU!

First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth

Our Vision –

Coming together and growing as a community of believers, glorifying and always being refined by God, reaching out in grace and love to the world.

Our Mission –

FPCT is a community of grace and love in which each person's gifts, talents, and skills are welcomed and valued. We are a household of faith, a people gathered together to worship God, proclaim God's salvation, and to experience an eternal relationship with God.

STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We have several needs each Sunday morning. Throughout the year we are in need of the following:

Ushers: If you haven't ushered before but would like to help, let the office know and we'll pair you up with someone who has done it before.

Coffee Hour Hosts/Hostesses: We need Coffee Hour hosts/hostesses for upcoming Sunday mornings. Being a host/hostess entails arriving to church before worship to start the coffee and then being present after the service to socialize. We have several ladies who are willing to show anyone the ropes. The coffee hour sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the kitchen.

Flower Donations for the Sanctuary: Currently, all dates are open on our flower calendar which is posted on the bulletin board in the kitchen. If you would like to furnish flowers for our sanctuary on a Sunday morning, please sign the chart. Your flowers, given in celebration, honor, or memory of someone or a special event, will enhance our sanctuary and be greatly appreciated by those in attendance at that worship service.

SEASONAL VOLUNTEERS: Snow removal of church sidewalks & entries. Please sign up on the sheet posted on the kitchen bulletin board OR contact the church office. THANK YOU for your STEWARDSHIP!

First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth
12517 Morseville Rd.
Birch Run, MI 48415



First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth

12517 Morseville Rd Birch Run, MI 48415

Telephone: 989.624.9473 • Fax: 989.624.4904

Email: Taymouthchurch@msn.com

Visit our website: www.Taymouthchurch.com

Connect with us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/TaymouthPresbyterianChurch

Sunday Worship – 9:30am

Sunday School – 10:45am

Adult “Sack Lunch” Bible Study – Wednesdays Noon-1:00pm

Rev. John Scott Kroener, Pastor

Sharon Leach, Clerk of Session - Tiffany Fortier, Treasurer

Anita Gilbert, Church Secretary - Heidi Smith, Music/Choir Director

Dawn Patrick, Christian Education Director & Financial Secretary

Floyd Roebuck, Youth Director - Paul Fortier, Custodian

After-Hours Pastoral Emergencies: Pastor Scott Kroener

(home) 989-244-6145

(cell) 559-816-9564

