



First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth

TAYMOUTH TIDINGS

February 2020

Welcome!

Sunday Worship - 9:30am, Sunday School - 10:45am

Adult "Sack Lunch" Bible Study - Wednesdays, Noon - 1:00pm

Rev. John Scott Kroener, Pastor

Christine Callender, Clerk of Session - Tiffany Fortier, Treasurer

Heidi Smith, Music/Choir Director

Dawn Patrick, Financial Secretary and Christian Education Director

Floyd Roebuck, Youth Director - Paul Fortier, Custodian

12517 Morseville Rd Birch Run, MI 48415

Telephone: 989-624-9473, Fax: 989-624-4904

Website: www.taymouthchurch.com, email: taymouth-church@msn.com

Connect on Facebook: www.facebook.com/



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.

Prayer Circle

To activate the church's prayer circle, please call Cindy Rabe (989) 624-9274. Prayer requests are Conveyed by telephone.

Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible Study for the Epiphany and Lenten Seasons will be held every Wednesday from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. Topics of discussion will be the Gospel of Matthew and the Matthew 25 Church mission.

Change in Phone Number

To reach Sandy Bolf, please call daughter



On Wednesday, February 26, 6:00 pm, we will have our Annual Soup Supper with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite soup to share together for the beginning of Lenten Season.

The weekly Lenten Soup Suppers with our local Birch Run and Burt Churches will be held on Thursdays this year. Beginning at 6:00 pm with Soup Supper and Devotions following at 7:00 pm. Each hosting church will provide the meal. More information from Member Care Committee for April 2 will follow.

March 5 - Ss Francis and Clare Catholic Church

March 12 - Birch Run United Methodist Church

March 19 - Christ Lutheran Church of Birch Run

March 26 - Burt United Methodist Church

April 2 - Taymouth Presbyterian Church

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.

“What is in your Pocket?”

As a Navy chaplain, one thing I always carried in my uniform cargo pockets was a small quantity of religious symbols. I freely gave them away for my sailors and Marines in order to assist them in their spiritual care. My military flock comprised of both the religious and the non-religious. The religious consisted of Christians, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, Taoists, Hindus, and other faiths. I tried to keep in my possession at least one faith symbol pertaining to a person's particular religion, and sometimes it was impossible because of its unavailability. You can imagine how many things I have carried in my cargo pockets when I would make pastoral visits to work spaces on ship or in the field. I was thankful for large cargo pant pockets on my utility uniforms!

I was amazed how many small, wearable, dog chain size (i.e. necklace size), religious objects could actually fit in my uniform cargo pockets such as Christian Crosses, Jewish Stars of David or Torah Tablets, Muslim Crescent Moons, Buddhist Eternal Prayer Wheels, Taoist Yin and Yang Circles, Hindu Enlighten Lamps, and other symbols that would come into my possession either by way of the Department of Defense logistical supply system, church denominations, individual churches, para-church organizations, or religious groups. I was touched by how many of our nation's young people sought these sacred symbols to wear or place in their pockets to touch and feel the presence of the sacred and the divine. What uplifted me was the many conversations I had in listening and talking with people about religion, faith, and spirituality. Guiding and supporting military personnel's spiritual quests and pilgrimages was very meaningful and rewarding.

Besides carrying a handful of these bright shiny religious objects in my pockets I would always carry a small pocket size camouflage New Testament and an Angel Rock. No need to explain why a Christian chaplain would carry a New Testament Bible, but to carry an Angel Rock needs some explanation. These flat and round rocks were 1"-2" in diameter. They were painted with an angel on one side and an American flag on the other side. I would only carry a couple of these rocks with me in making my pastoral visits, and hopefully I could give them away quickly so as to lighten my weight load. A solution to my dilemma became apparent when several of my Staff NCOs (Non-Commissioned Officers) chuckled at my stash of Angel Rocks in my office. They themselves began to collect a few of them for their own use as a divine calling card for their Marines and sailors. When a Staff NCO wanted me to take special notice of one of their sailors or Marines they would instruct that very Marine or sailor to tell the chaplain, "An angel has sent you, and please give this rock to the chaplain." The Angel Rocks became a sign for the Marines and sailors to know they are being cared for by God's angels in this world. My pile of rocks slowly dissipated over time.

Whether it be a cross, an Angel Rock, or some other faith symbol or book, I discovered the need to touch and to be touched by God's presence is very important. This was very true in the military, and I know it remains to be true in the parish or church ministry. Tell me, "What is in your pocket?" Do you have an Angel Rock, a cross, a prayer coin, a faith shield, a prayer bead, a marble, or a penny with a heart cut out in the center of it like the penny hearts I gave to the children this past Sunday during the children's sermon? I hope you carry something in your pocket where you can reach for it and feel God's presence. I hope you have an opportunity to reach in your pocket and share your faith symbol with others. Indeed, a faith symbol in the pocket brings comfort to the bearer and brings Good News to the hearer. Telling our faith story and giving away our faith symbol to another brings faith, hope, and love into a dark world.

"We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness." (Romans 12:6-8, NRSV)

Shalom, Pastor Scott





Mission Committee News

Starting with the first day of Epiphany (January 6, 2020) Mission started a PENNY WAR. This will continue until the 25th day of February. This war is between members who sit in the North side pews against those who sit in the South pews. The money raised from this war will be split 50-50 between our church and Brian's House (a hospice home in Essexville). If you have any question regarding this war, please see Bonnie Pratt or Holly Wendzik for details.

On Sunday, February 9, 2020, the Mission Committee will hold a SWEETS FOR YOUR SWEETIE live auction. There will be special delicious items you can bid on for your dear loved one (or even for yourself). There will also be some items with a set price. If something catches your eye, be sure to make a purchase. We have several members who make these yummy items, so if something catches your eye, be sure to make a purchase. The proceeds from this auction will go to help Missions provide assistants to various agencies.

It has been brought to the attention of the Mission Committee about the great need for food items in this area. Mission will ask Session for permission to continue the COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY. This will be the same as last year with items to be brought on the times we are served communion. Items may also be placed in the drop off area at any time. Hunger does NOT go away!!! Here are some of the suggested items they can use: Chicken soup, tomato soup, canned chicken or tuna fish, Ramen noodles, juices, instant potatoes (box or pouch), scallop potatoes (box), Zataran rice and beans, Rice-A-Roni, canned peas and canned carrots, and dry powdered milk. You may also use a pew envelope for donations to this cause.

At the last Missions meeting we discussed some new giving events for this year. These ideas have to be taken to the next Session meeting for approval. Look in next months newsletter for what we have planned.

 <h1>February 2020</h1>						1
2 9:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11:00 am Worship Comm. Meeting	3	4 Building & Grounds 7:00 pm	5 Bible Study 12:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm	6	7	8 Family Game Night 7:00pm
9 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee Hour Missions- "SWEETS FOR YOUR SWEETIE"	10	11 Session Meeting 7:00 pm	12 Bible Study 12:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm	13	14 Happy Valentines Day!	15
16 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11:00 am Member Care "Work Bee"	17	18	19 Bible Study 12:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm	20 VBS planning at Ss. Francis 3:00 pm	21	22
23 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11:00 Mission Meeting	24	25	26 Ash Wed. Soup Supper 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	27	28	29 

WE ARE HIRING! We are in need of a part-time secretary, 12-15 hours per week. Required skills needed: Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, Communication abilities (writing, spelling, grammar, proofreading) and working with people is a must. Resume due by February 10, 2020. If you are interested, email Kathy Maurer at kathymaurer@ymail.com

Christian Education

Thank you all for your generous giving to our Noisy Offerings in 2019. We had collected enough to distribute \$300.00 to Missy Stanley and her USO Military Boxes campaign, \$300.00 to Ss. Francis and Clare Catholic Church of Birch Run to help with the creation of a Church Community Emergency fund **, and \$125.00 to purchase 5 five Bible Sticks for our Military Buddies. The next Noisy Offerings will be May 17, September 13, and December 20. We are so blessed and thankful to be able to help in so many ways!

**The initial decision of giving \$300.00 to the Catholic Church Emergency fund was then changed to help a local Birch Run family that are associated with St. Lorenz Lutheran Church of Frankenmuth.

Sunday School will now be learning the Sixth Beatitude which is: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God." God doesn't judge us based on what we do or what we look like on the outside. God goes much deeper in his relationship than that. He goes right into our hearts. God know us better than we know ourselves.

"Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them." Matthew 5:1-12.

God Bless,
Dawn Patrick
Christian Education Director



Detroit Tigers Home Plate Event

Home Plate is a Christian Outreach Ministry coordinated by the Detroit Tigers Chaplain, the Rev. Jeff Totten. The game will be on Saturday, June 13, 2020 and will be a contest against the Toronto Blue Jays. It is a spectacular event which features current and former Detroit Tigers sharing the meaning of their faith in the context of being a professional baseball player. Tickets are \$29.00 per person. Like last year, the church will pay for the children and youth of our congregation that wish to attend. Deadline to sign up on the bulletin board in the kitchen is March 1st.



Choir would love to have you come and join them for practice Wednesdays at 7:00 pm.

Come and Sing! All are welcome!

Heidi Smith,
Music/Choir Director

SUNDAY SHEPHERD

The Session is implementing the church's ***Emergency Response and Safety Plan***. In order to make this plan work for church, the Session is in need of volunteers who will serve as a Sunday Shepherd to make sure the church's doors (all except for the front west entrance) are locked and secured during the worship hour. The Sunday Shepherd will keep watch on the west entrance doors to monitor the coming and going of people on any given service. The Sunday Shepherd will be the primary person responsible to call 911 in case of an emergency. For complete information about the plan, please contact Robert Minard, Chair of Emergency and Disaster Committee. Thank you Floyd Roebuck for bring the Sunday Shepherd for February.



Session Round-Up for January 10, 2020

- Training and Education presented by Pastor Scott Kroener. Article entitled: Regarding Ruling Elders: A monthly series for serving faithfully.
- Meeting called to order and opened with prayer by Rev. Kroener, Moderator at 7:24 pm.
- 11 members were present. 1 member excused. A quorum was present.
- Accepted Pastor's request to rearrange the order of the agenda.
- Approved minutes with corrections of December 10, 2019 Session Meeting.
- Election of Clerk: Accepted Christine Callender to assume the responsibility of Clerk of Session for a one year term. Sharon and Christine will complete year end reports. Thank You card received from Sharon Leach.
- Accepted the motion to split Benevolence, \$290.00 to General Assembly and \$710.00 to Presbytery for shared missions.
- Accepted Treasurer's report: \$7,403.37 balance will go against deficit -\$32,165.83, bringing the deficit down to -\$24,762.46. This will start the General Fund out at \$0.
- Accepted 2020 Budget with corrections as presented by Finance Committee and Financial Secretary.
- Session assignments: Building and Grounds: Gary Brabant- Chair, Dennis Neahusen, Adam Smith; Finance: Tiffany Fortier- Chair & Treasurer; Mission: Bonnie Pratt- Chair, Nancy Schriber; Worship: Sharon Peters.- Chair; Christian Education: Floyd Roebuck- Chair; Member Care: Holly Wendzik- chair; Personnel: Rob Minard- Chair; Sharon Leach; Social Media & Communication Outreach: Christine Callender- Chair.
- Accepted Emergency & Disaster Planning Committee to become a Session committee: Rob Minard - Chair.
- Accepted Tiffany Fortier as Treasurer for a one year term.
- Other church committees: Audit (Financial Review): Bonnie Pratt- Chair, Tiffany Fortier; Nominating: Floyd Roebuck - Chair, Tiffany Fortier; Muriel Lakey Scholarship: Sharon Leach – Chair, Christine Callender; Church dinners: Ken Maurer- Chair, Christine Callender as liaison to Session.
- Matthew 25 program tabled until the April meeting. More research to be done.
- Accepted with New Session members that Sunday Shepherd be opened to all Congregation members. We will begin locking doors on February 2nd. Floyd will be our first Sunday Shepard. Once church service has begun, only the doors on the West of the building (Morseville Rd) will be open. Shepherd will be on duty from 9 am until the end of service, approx. 10:45 am. Training for Sunday Shepherds will be in March or April. Training will include CPR, AED, fire extinguisher, and other trainings. See Rob Minard – Chair of Emergency and Disaster Planning Committee for more details.
- Holy Communion will be the 1st Sunday of each month. Ash Wednesday is February 26, 2020. Worship will work out more Special Communion dates.
- Accepted Pastor's vacation. He will be gone from July 8-21, 2020. Worship committee to find guest speakers for July 12 & 19 services.
- Outdoor service will be held July 5, 2020.
- PW will meet in March 2020.
- Game Night was cancelled due to road and weather on Saturday, January 11, 2020. Next game night is Saturday, February 8, 2020, at 7pm.
- The church had a "snow day" on Sunday January 12, 2020, due to road and weather conditions. This is the second time since Pastor Scott has arrived that the church has been closed.
- Dinner Committee met on December 15, 2019. This was an introduction meeting. Many ideas were discussed. Biggest concern is helpers for all events. Next meeting will be in March 2020 and we will be discussing the upcoming Fish Fry and also ideas for the Harvest Supper.
- Building & Grounds (B&G): New plungers, plates and handles will be installed on downstairs Fellowship Hall doors. Cost covered by donation. New valves installed in Kitchen. Manse chimney is need of repairs once the weather is better as some bricks are coming off of it. New back-up sump pump will be reviewed and placed in Manse in February 2020.
- Missions: Meeting will be January 26, 2020, in Geneva Room. Cookie Walk and Holiday Treats event was successful. It raised \$746.59. Approval for Women at Risk (WAR) to be on Saturday, May 2, 2020. SWEETS FOR YOUR SWEETIE auction will be on Sunday, February 9, 2020, in Fellowship Hall.
- Christian Education: Pancake Breakfast raised \$242.00 in profit. Next meeting is Sunday, January 19, 2020 in the Geneva Room. Home Plate sign up is downstairs. See Floyd for details or questions.
- Member Care: "Reach Up, Reach Out, Reach All" motto for committee. Many ideas being discussed. Approval given to plan a Quilt Show on Saturday, June 6, 2020. Pre-sale ticket dates will be announced later. Invitation will be extended to other community churches.
- Personnel gave 2% raise to all staff employees excluding Pastor.
- Social Media & Communication Outreach (SM&CO) handed out committee information from the website and asked that they be returned by March session meeting, so that updates can be made to the website.
- Pastor will partake in an Installation Service in Davison Presbyterian Church at 3pm. On Sunday, January 26, 2020, Pastor will be moderating Vassar's Congregational meeting at 11:30 am.
- Adjournment with prayer at 9:25 pm.
Christine Callender, Clerk of Session

Stewardship

Our Budget was met and exceeded in 2019! Congratulations and Thank You! From “How to Reach Your Church’s Financial Goals This Year”, I found an article that speaks to our Stewardship here at Taymouth:

“Insufficient funds is doubtless one of the most unwelcomed expressions you can hear. It causes governments to crumble, businesses to bankrupt and personal lives to fall apart. Is it wrong that money has such an important role in our lives? Not at all. You may be surprised to learn that God’s Word refers more to money and property relations than to any other subject. Nearly 60 percent of the Bible deals with these issues.

Our Lord knew that money stands between more people and their relationship to God than any other one thing. That’s the reason you are blessed so much when you give generously to the Lord’s work.

The subject of money is not taboo with God. He has clearly established that money is essential to his work here on earth, that He expects His people to provide that money and that when they do, *He will bless them beyond measure.*

Money is missions, world evangelism, feeding the hungry, housing the homeless, caring for the sick. It is bibles distributed, the Gospel broadcast, treasures laid up in heaven. That’s money in the hands of a good steward like you.

Yet these things can be done only when there are sufficient funds. And your church has sufficient funds only when there is sufficient love, sufficient concern, sufficient commitment.

So please do your part to see that there is money enough to accomplish the Lord’s work. Make the most generous, most liberal financial commitment that you’ve ever made. When you do, God will pour out His blessings on you. That’s His promise. And that should be more than sufficient.”

(Reprinted with permission, October 23, 1989, Virgil W. Hensley, 24th Edition, Stewardship-Manual 5744, p.37)

Thank you for doing what needs to be done!
Blessings,
Dawn Patrick
Financial Secretary

Romans 8:28 “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God.”

Budget for Program and Support Staff 2020

	2019	*2020	Dollar +/-
Office Secretary	\$7878	\$8035.56	+ \$157.56
Financial Secretary	\$3636	\$3708.72	+ \$72.72
Director of Music	\$5252	\$5357.04	+ \$105.04
Musician/Accompanist	\$6565	\$6696.30	+ \$131.30
Custodian	\$6244	\$6369	+ \$125
Christian Education Director	\$1326	\$1352.52	+ \$26.52
Total Change in Salaries			+ \$618.14

*The 2020 Salary increase was approved by the Personal Committee in 2019 pending the budget approval at the January Session meeting. A 2% raise was then applied to the staff salaries beginning in January. (Excluding Pastor)

For those who receive this newsletter electronically, please contact the church office for a copy of the new 2020 budget.



Community Support

SARAH’S CLOSET: Needs adult clothing for men and women! Clothing needs include: shoes, socks, dresses, pants, shirts, coats, and under-garments. Open every Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm and on Friday from 10:00 am to Noon. Call the Birch Run United Methodist Church at (989) 6249340. The church is located at 122656 Church St., Birch Run.

BIRCH RUN BABY PANTRY: Open 4th Friday of every month from 10:00 am to noon, excluding holidays. Call Christ Lutheran Church at (989) 624-9378. Church address is 8101 Poellet St., Birch Run. All recipients must fill out form to receive necessary items.

FOOD PANTRY: Ss. Frances and Clare Catholic Church is host to a Community Food Pantry. Hours are Monday, 9:00 am to 11:30 am, Wednesday from 1:00 pm to 3:00pm, or by appointment. Please call (989) 624-9098 for more information. Church is located at 12157 Church St., Birch Run.



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

When times are dark, let God light the way!