



# First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth

## JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2020

### Taymouth Tidings

#### **Welcome!**

Sunday Worship—9:30am

Rev. John Scott Kroener, Pastor

Sarah Schriber— Secretary, Heidi Smith— Music/Choir Director

Christine Callender—Clerk of Session, Tiffany Fortier—Treasurer

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](http://www.taymouthchurch.com), email: [taymouthchurch@msn.com](mailto:taymouthchurch@msn.com)

Connect on Facebook: Taymouth Presbyterian Church

IN PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES TO RESUME ON

## **FEBRUARY 7TH**

LIVESTREAM WILL CONTINUE FOR THOSE AT HOME

#### **Indoor Service Format**

Upon Arrival—Only the South and East Entrances will be used to enter the church. Depending on preference and total attendance, you will be ushered either to the Sanctuary or to the Fellowship hall. Social distancing is in place in both areas. Please keep your coat with you. After the service, we ask that you wait to be dismissed. Hand Sanitizer and masks are available. Thank you!

### **MASKS ARE REQUIRED**

#### **Joys and Concerns**

Prayer needs are on-going for Debbie Minard, Elsie Gajewski and Sandy Bolf. Please keep them in your prayers and many others during this time.

The church office is available to receive your joys and concerns by phone or email.

#### **Church Office Hours**

**We are here for you!**

**Please call the church with any concerns or prayers. The office hours are Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

#### **Food Pantry**

**Please remember our local Food Pantry at the Ss Francis and Clare Catholic church is in need of donations! Some suggested items include chicken soup, tomato soup, canned chicken or tuna, ramen noodles, juices, boxed potatoes, canned peas and carrots, and dry powdered milk. You may drop off items at our church during office hours.**

#### **Prayer Circle**

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

#### **Adult Bible Study**

**Adult Bible Studies will be postponed until further notice.**

#### **MURIEL LAKEY SCHOLARSHIP**

The Church will begin accepting applications to the Muriel Lakey Scholarship beginning February 1<sup>st</sup>. Anyone who is pursuing post-high school education is welcome to apply as long as the following three criteria are met:

1. Member of the Church
2. Financial need
3. Involvement in the life of the church.

All factors being equal, higher consideration will be given to those who have not previously received a scholarship. Completed applications may be mailed to the church or emailed to the church's email account. If you have any questions, please ask. The decision of the Session, or its designated representative(s), is final. Thank you for applying and may you find God's blessings in whatever education you seek.

*Application Deadline: March 31st, 2020*

#### **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 for more information.*

## “Oath of Office”

January 6th, the official day Congress counted the certified electoral votes of our nation's 50 states, including the State of Michigan, the United States Capitol building came under attack by a violent mob leading an insurrection against the government of the United States. These perpetrators' actions disrupted the 117th Congress's Constitutional mandate to formally elect our country's next President and Vice President.

News media outlets continue to report the day's events from its many angles and perspectives, uncovering the truth of what took place in the sacred halls of Congress. The Why? What? Who? Where? When? and How? questions are being asked with our nation's law enforcement agencies arresting some of the Capitol's trespassers. Now the House of Representatives has impeached President Trump for the second time related to the grievous offense of not keeping his oath to honor, defend, and protect the U.S. Constitution. I expect Congress will censure some of its own members for their behavior of unbecoming a congressman or congresswoman.

Any person taking an oath of office, whether it be in a municipality, township, county, state, or federal government, s/he must have a strong, impeccable, moral character. There is no question about it. Honor, courage, and commitment portray a high moral character. Trusting a person's character is the cornerstone of our democracy. Without that trust, our faith in American democracy is gravely threatened. Without trust, our belief in this nation, being a Republic, will cease to exist.

What took place at the U.S. Capitol created a sense of horror within me. For the first time, I must say, I saw how vulnerable our Republic really is and how fragile democracy is. I found my unsavory revelation distasteful to the point where I wanted to throw up.

Saying or taking an oath of office is truly a tremendous undertaking of responsibility. I have taken several sacred oaths or vows in the course of my life. The first one, in 1975, when I was ordained a Deacon at my home church in Murphysboro, Illinois. The second one, in 1982, when I married Jane at her home church in Carbondale, Illinois. The third one, in 1986, when I was ordained and installed as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament in my first parish in Ewing, Nebraska. The fourth one, when I was installed as Pastor of Home Heights Presbyterian Church in 1990, St. Louis, Missouri. The fifth one, when I was installed as Pastor of the Mitchell Presbyterian Church in 1994, Granite City, Illinois. The sixth one, in 1996, when I took the oath of office to become an Officer and Chaplain in the United States Navy at the Federal Building in St. Louis, Missouri. My seventh oath of office occurred in 2017 when I was installed as the Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth in Birch Run, Michigan.

All seven oaths or vows were completed in a sacred and holy manner. All seven oaths were witnessed by a community where responsibility and accountability are held in high esteem. The same holds true for all who have become ordained/installed Deacons or Elders of the First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth. The same is true when a person joins our church, as well as those who take their marriage vows before the eyes of God. We take our oaths of office seriously as Presbyterians, as Christians, as Americans.

Although I am a retired U.S. Naval Officer, I am still obligated to uphold and protect the U.S. Constitution, a governing principle written as a document, from all domestic and foreign enemies. Such responsibility and accountability are not taken lightly but reverently and deliberately. The same holds true with my ordination vows as a Pastor of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to support and uphold our denomination's Constitution as written in The Book of Order and in The Book of Confessions. There is no higher or sacred calling than being a disciple of Jesus Christ. Jesus gives us the direction and instruction to be faithful disciples following His lead in being the Way, the Truth, and the Life—Being the Church.

I pray and hope our 117th Congress and our 45th President develop repentant hearts and take their oaths of office seriously for the benefit of all U.S. citizens and the glory of God.

Shalom,

Pastor Scott



## **Mission Committee News**

As we look back on mission work for 2020, we did not do all we had planned/wanted to do. We were however able to give to a few selected places. In January for the days of Epiphany, we did a “Penny War”. Funds from this were divided 50-50 between Brian House and our church. October we collected funds for “One Great Hour of Sharing”. It had been a few years since we participated in this and felt it was a good time to do so. Beside the above mentioned events, we were able to have fund raising from “Sweets for Your Sweetie” and the “Cupcake War”.

With money we had in our account, we were able in 2020 to give to a local family, “Women at Risk, International (WAR)”, “Healthsource of Saginaw”, “Amazing Grace Animal Rescue” and “Mustard Seed Shelter”. Collection of food items has been a continuous event for our church. The food items are then given to the “Food Pantry” at SS Francis and Clare Catholic Church in Birch Run, Michigan. A project we have been participating in is the “Shoeboxes for Saginaw”. This year we were able to provide them with 23 gift wrapped boxes to go to local shelters.

We are not certain what the new year, 2021, has in store for us. Missions is dedicated to continue providing assistance to those in need. Thank you for your continued support in helping those that are less fortunate than ourselves.

Bonnie Pratt, Mission Chairperson

# February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 <b>B&amp;G Meeting 7:00 p.m.</b>	3	4	5	6
7 Livestream & In-Person Service 9:30am w/Communion 10:15 Worship Meeting <b>SCOUT SUNDAY</b>	8	9 <b>In-person Session 7:00pm</b>	10	11	12	13
14 Livestream & In-Person Service 9:30 am 	15	16	17 <b>Ash Wednesday Service 7:00pm with Holy Communion</b> <i>No Potluck</i>	18	19	20
21 Livestream & In-Person Service 9:30 am	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Livestream & In-Person Service 9:30 am <b>10:15 ANNUAL MEETING</b>						

## BULLETINS

For those watching from home, weekly bulletins are available on our website at [taymouthchurch.com](http://taymouthchurch.com) or can be mailed to you. You may also reserve a time to watch the service during office hours at the church.

Call the church office for an assistance or more information.



All meetings for Presbyterian Women have been cancelled until Spring of 2021. Have a Safe Winter!

## Christian Education Newsletter

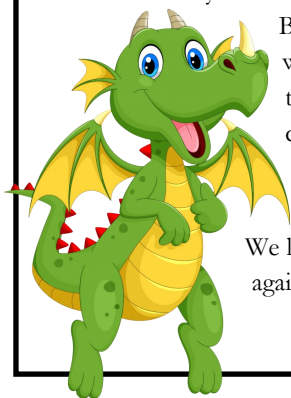
The Sunday School kids, Pastor Scott, Christine, Parents, Grandparents, and I all had a great time preparing the Christmas Joy 2020 program for you! The kids did a super job and we had so much fun. You can still check it out on Facebook or YouTube. Thank you to everyone who put in their time and talents to make this work. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

Sunday School will resume on February 7, when we begin in-person church services. Currently at church, Firebal and Sparky have been talking to a lot of

Bible friends about the wonderful church family we have and all the new things they are learning with the children's sermon and hanging out here at church. We talk about the meaning of Joy and why God sent his son to earth. What a joy to have a Lord that loves us so much!

We look forward to seeing our Sunday School friends again real soon!

God Bless, Dawn Patrick, CE Director



## Member Care

### "REACH UP, REACH OUT, REACH ALL"

We have added 6 new Military Buddies to our monthly card ministry. These soldiers have been deployed. If you would like to send an additional card, their addresses are available.

This year, Member Care will not be making and delivering our shut-in baskets. We are looking to do something different this spring.

Our "Guess Who" for November was Marge Colosky! What a great surprise! Until we can meet in person, "Guess Who" is being suspended.

Check out our Church Front door on Morseville Road. Each heart represents our church family members and military buddies. In these difficult times, Love, Kindness, and Hope are to be shared!

Thank you! Holly Wendzik, Member Care Chair

## NEWS FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

The following items were discussed and approved at the December 2020 and January 2021 Session Meetings.

### Session Meeting: December 8, 2020

- ◇ Gary Brabant was trying to get a hold of the tree trimmers.
- ◇ The budget was discussed for 2021. The contribution budget needs to be looked at as a goal for the year. The staff was given a 4% raise.
- ◇ Accepted introduction of Adopt-A-Bill. Members can put their money in a specific place if they wish. They can take a bill for 1, 3, or 6 month increments. There will be more information made available by the finance committee.
- ◇ Missions gave \$400 to One Great Hour of Sharing as planned. The other four donations and they had planned to make, they cut the original requested amount in half.
  - ⇒ Women at Risk (WAR) received \$250 Amazing Grace Animal Rescue, Healthsource of Saginaw and Mustard Seed shelter received \$200 each.
  - ⇒ 23 shoe boxes were wrapped this year and Kathy Rogers delivered them. There is currently nothing planned for 2021 at this time. In 2020, Missions raised \$1,427.64. This is the lowest amount raised in the last four years due to the pandemic.
- ◇ Taping of the Christmas program began on December 5, 2020 and will continue on December 13, 2020. The plan is to show/upload the program on December 20, 2020.
- ◇ Member Care put up 1 Corinthians Bible verse and hearts all over the west door.
- ◇ Christmas Eve service will be virtual on December 24, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. Charlotte Needham will be the soloist. Christmas Eve bonfire service will take place on December 24, 2020, at 8:00 p.m.
- ◇ Discussed Annual congregational meeting being postponed until February 2021.

December 2020	
<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
Income \$ (1,701.98)	Income - \$545.00
Expense \$ (2,369.26)	Payment - \$341.00
End Balance \$ (4,049.25)	

### Session Meeting: January 12, 2021

- ◇ Pastor received an email from Rick and Lynn Hauk. They have requested to reactivate their membership.
- ◇ The tree trimming has been done. Ideas for a stump carving will be discussed at the congregational meeting.
- ◇ Per Capita numbers reported to the General Assembly incorrectly in 2019. This made the numbers off in 2020 as well. They will be corrected when statistics are sent over in February 2021; so going forward really paying the correct Per Capita amount.
- ◇ It was approved that we will be back in church beginning on February 7, 2021, following all social distancing policies that are currently in place.
- ◇ Congregational meeting has been approved to be on February 28th, 2021 immediately following the church service.

Christine Callender, Clerk of Session

\*\*For a complete list of all items discussed at the Session meeting, please contact the church office or the Clerk of Session.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

First I want to thank all the families who brought their children up for the taping of Christmas Joy 2020. The children were wonderful to have and there was a lot of good footage. It was very hard to edit it all down.

I ended up taping the kids over a 3-day period and had 3 hours and 6 minutes worth of footage. Over 7 days, 25 hours total, I edited off 1 hour and 13 minutes. The final video ended up being one hour and 53 minutes long. It took 3 hours to upload.

Pastor, Dawn, and I are very thankful for our children. They truly helped bring joy to us when we couldn't be together. This Christmas program was very different but the children gave us a wonderful laugh and brought smiles to everyone that watched the video.

I cannot wait to see what 2021 brings.

1 Corinthians 16:14  
"Do everything in love."

Christine Callender  
Social Media and Communication Outreach Chair



T H A N K  
Y O U !

Thank You!

Rob and I would like to thank all of you for your thoughtful cards, letters, phone calls, gifts, the wonderful meals that you provided for us, and most of all, your words of encouragement and prayers during both of my illnesses. It is amazing what the power of prayer can do! We could not ask for a more caring, and loving friends and church family. We miss all of you and hope to be together again with you soon. In the meantime, we hope you had a very Merry Christmas and have a Happy and Healthy New Year.

With appreciation and love,  
Rob & Debbie Minard



THANK  
YOU

# Stewardship

	December 3	December 17	December 31	MTD	Contribution Budget Needs
General Fund	\$3726.36	\$3573.82	\$4505	\$11805.18	\$9166 Monthly
Building Fund	\$380	\$125	\$55	\$560	\$367 Monthly
Per Capita	\$30	\$160	\$0	\$2695 (YTD)	\$3999.03 Yearly
Initial Offering	\$0	\$6	\$0	\$286(YTD)	\$658 Yearly

Dear Church Family and Friends!

Thank you for your generous giving during all of 2020. We were not able to start a new budget year in the red, but we adapted and survived! We are indeed blessed to have a loving and gracious God that has been at our side every step of the way.

To start off this year, Session and the Finance Committee have approved to try something new for our church – “Adopt-a-bill”. The idea is pretty simple and just like the title, you can help with church expenses by selecting a particular expense to “adopt”. The bill can be adopted for a 1 month, 3 month, 6 month, or longer period of time. There are many different types and amounts to choose from. Also, the person adopting a bill will receive credit on their giving statements. Please call the church office at 989-624-9473 when you are ready to adopt.

Offering envelopes are still available for pick-up. They are located on a table, second level, by the sanctuary doors.

During the month of January, Money Counters processed the contributions on January 14 and 28. Regular weekly counting will begin on February 7 when church returns to in-person gathering.

Thank you all and God Bless,  
Dawn Patrick, Financial Secretary

## THE ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

Is to be held on

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>**

**AT 10:15 A.M.**

Immediately following Worship

### SUNDAY SHEPARD

The Session continues to implement our church's Emergency Response and Safety Plan. The Sunday Shepherd will oversee and monitor the safety of our congregation, and will be the primary person responsible to call 911 in case of an emergency. In order to make this plan work, the Session is in need of

volunteers who will serve as a Sunday Shepherd. A complete information form can be found in the Office.

Thank you to **Floyd Roebuck** for volunteering in **February**.

Robert Minard, Chair of Emergency and Disaster Committee.

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

### Personal and Household Item Assistance

**Sarah's Closet:** Our mission provides adult clothing for men and women! Clothing items include: shoes, socks, dresses, pants, shirts, coats, and undergarments. Call the Birch Run United Methodist Church at (989) 624-9340 for hours of operation. 12265 Church St, Birch Run.

**Emmaus House of Saginaw:** Provides a free thrift store. Items include: clothing, household items, linens, towels, toys, shoes, furniture, and some appliances. All items were donated, and donations accepted. Open Mon. -Sat. 9:30a.m. -3:30p.m. 733 South 14th St. Saginaw MI 48601

### Baby Supplies

**Baby Pantry:** Christ Lutheran Church of Birch Run, located at 8101 Poellet St, is host to the local Baby Pantry. Call the church office at (989) 624-9378 for hours of operation.

**Can Council Great Lakes Bay Region:** Provides diapers to families in need for Saginaw and Bay County Residents. Call (989) 752-7226 for contact free pick up. 1311 North Michigan Ave. Saginaw MI 48602

### Food Pantries

**Ss. Francis & Clare Catholic Church:** is host to a Community Food Pantry. Hours are, Mon. 9:00-11:30 am, Wed. 1:00-3:00 pm, or by appointment. (989) 624-9098 12157 Church St., Birch Run.

**Sweet Pea's Pantry:** hosts food distribution on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month from 9-11a.m. 108 W. State St., Montrose. Located in the back of the Strong Inspirations Building. (810)350-2254 sweetpeapantry.org

**Old Town Christina Outreach Center:** hosts food distribution every Saturday from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. or when food runs out. 600 Gratiot Ave. Saginaw, MI 48602 (989)249-8696



Please visit [fbem.org](http://fbem.org) for more food pantry locations.

**FOR GOD  
SO LOVED  
THE WORLD  
THAT HE GAVE HIS  
ONE AND ONLY SON  
THAT WHOEVER  
BELIEVES IN  
HIM SHALL  
NOT PERISH  
BUT HAVE  
ETERNAL  
LIFE**  
**JOHN 3:16**



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