



First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth

June & July 2020

Taymouth Tidings

Welcome!

Sunday Worship—9:30am, Sunday School—10:45am
Adult "Sack Lunch" Bible Study—Wednesdays, Noon—1:00pm
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, email: taymouthchurch@msn.com
Connect on Facebook: Taymouth Presbyterian Church

Joys and Concerns

Please call or email the church for any of your prayer needs! At this time, our continued thoughts and prayers are with Gary Brabant after having heart surgery and Kim Britton on the passing of her brother.



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 9:00am to 1:00pm. (989) 624-9473

Food Pantry

Please remember our local Food Pantry at the Ss Francis and Clare Catholic church is in need of donations! Currently they are asking for canned fruit, ramen noodles, and diced tomatoes. 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.

Welcome Back!

I want to welcome everyone back! This newsletter issue contains information about what we need and should do as we physically come together as a family of God. We will need to observe the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines and recommendations such as washing hands, using hand sanitizer, keeping social distancing, wearing face masks.

Presently, our Governor is allowing social groups of 100 people or fewer to gather outdoors. The Session believes it is safe to conduct outside worship services. The Session will evaluate indoor worship services when the CDC's Phase 1 ends, which currently recommends only ten or fewer people to gather indoors socially. Once the Governor in her reopening phases begins to allow, social gatherings reflecting CDC's Phase 2 where 50 or fewer people can gather together indoors, then worship inside the church becomes a probability. The Session is currently obtaining new technology to live-feed worship between the sanctuary and fellowship hall to accommodate the number of people attending while maintaining social distancing. The live-feed technology will enable the church to live-stream worship abroad by way of Facebook and YouTube.

We look forward to seeing you at our outdoor worship service on Sunday, July 5th, at 9:30 a.m.
Shalom,
Pastor Scott Kroener

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.

"A Green Thumb Church"

A few weeks ago, I received some small trees from Nancy Schriber so I could "bonsai" them in the future. A hobby of mine is creating and growing bonsai trees. Bonsai is the art of potting, growing, and styling miniature size trees to resemble those found in nature. I have tried this before a couple of years ago with John Miller's gift of small trees. Unfortunately, my black thumb got in the way. The same black thumb put to death a small tree that Betty Dudek gave me to bonsai three years ago. I am praying I don't do the same with my new batch of trees. This batch of new trees from Nancy consists of two Japanese maples, three Michigan white pine trees, and several indigenous maple and oak trees. Wish me luck. I need it.

Bonsai is nothing new for me. When Jane and I lived in California, we were able to grow and maintain several bonsai trees from a number of different tree and bush species. We both found it fun and enjoyable to shape things. Shaping nature is something humankind has been doing ever since our birth by God. Remember the Garden of Eden story (Genesis 2 & 3) and how our free will (disobedience) shaped our destiny to live outside of God's beautiful garden? Ever since our expulsion from the Garden of Eden, we humans have been trying to shape and reshape God's sacred garden back into our lives. Last year, Jane and I visited two beautiful, world-renowned, Michigan gardens: The Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park in Grand Rapids, and the Japanese Tea Garden in Saginaw. Both gardens reflect humanity's divine image of creativity (Genesis 1:26-27).

The power of human creativity involves shaping and reshaping nature into gardens or placing trees into small pots. Either way, by being made in God's divine image, we are blessed with the act of creativity, including the power of new ways of thinking. Just as the pandemic has shaped our lives to observe social isolation and social distancing, we have the ability to reshape our thinking and perspective towards a new attitude of what it means to live in a new norm. Shaping our response helps reduce other people's anxiety and fear. We are putting into action what Jesus calls the Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12). Yes, by following the Golden Rule and thinking of others, we all can overcome our fear.

Let us continue growing our church with a green thumb. Our church's memorial gardens and flowerbeds reflect God's living creativity. Let us do the same when we gather together as a church family.

Shalom,
Pastor Scott



Mission Committee News

Missions is anxiously awaiting the time when we can get back to sharing events with all of our church family members. We had to cancel the WOMEN AT RISK (WAR) party and will have to see about rescheduling it for later in the year.

The COMMUNION FOOD DRIVE is still an ongoing project we are collecting items. Please remember to bring your items to the church whenever you come. There is a basket by the south entrance where you may place your items. There is always a great need for food items to be distributed by the pantry at SS. Francis and Clare in Birch Run.

As the COVID-19 virus has limited the amount of time we have been able to do events this year, we are looking forward to hopefully being able to do future missions work in the not too distance future. In October we have planned on the ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING. More details will be given as the date comes closer.

Hopefully we will be able to do some of the annual events we have had in the past. The events are CUPCAKE WARS, SHOEBOXES FOR SAGINAW and COOKIE WALK AND HOLIDAY TREATS. There are many things that have to be figured out before we will be able to participate in these events.

Think positive and have faith.

Bonnie Pratt, Chair of Mission Committee

June 2020	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5 Drive-in Worship Service 9:30 am Graduation Recognition	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Drive-In Worship Service 9:30 am	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Drive-in Worship Service 9:30 am	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Drive-in Worship Service 9:30 am	27	28	29	30	31	



Christian Education

Sunday School has officially wrapped up for the year of learning the Beatitudes. We could not gather like we wanted to and we have continued to stay in touch. Thank you to everyone that helped deliver envelopes for me. I appreciate all the help!

We have a visitor! This past month, a few different happenings were noticed here at church. For example, treats were coming up missing, bibles left open, coloring crayons laying about, etc. We discovered a dragon puppet has flown in to check us out. His name is Firebal and he is super shy! Turns out, he is very curious about our church and Jesus. Pastor has invited him to attend the weekly children's sermon. I have talked to him about all the wonderful children we have here at Taymouth and he can't wait to meet them all. So, if you happen to see him, please welcome Firebal. (We have a lot to learn about him, but I do know he sleeps most of the daytime).

God Bless,
Dawn Patrick
Christian Education
Director

**Welcome
Firebal!**



P.W. Meetings
are cancelled
until further
notice.
Thank you!

Member Care

"REACH UP, REACH OUT, REACH ALL"

While we shelter in place, there will not be a new "Guess Who" until church resumes. April's "Guess Who" will continue, giving us all lots of additional time for guesses. I personally came up with ten guesses just by going through the 2020 Church Directory. When we meet again for worship, bring your guesses with you and stuff the jar. The jar is located at the south entrance.

Miss you all! Holly Wendzik, Chair

News from the Clerk's Desk

The following items were discussed and approved at June's Session meeting.

Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) time frame extended until December 2020. We will use all the funds by August 2020.

Approved to unfreeze money and to pick up on some projects that we had stopped in March.

After a read through on the Proposal for reopening the church, it was approved with the ability to make changes as necessary.

Our first service; is an outdoor service, on July 5, 2020. We will have a PA system brought in for our use. Jason Ward from Jigsaw-Jams will be providing the PA service.

Approved to become a Matthew 25 church. More details to follow.

VBS officially cancelled for 2020 per VBS committee.

Approved the purchase of new equipment for taping and live streaming indoor service through special offering and donation.

Approved Social Media & Communication Committee to find the best form of online payment system.

Next meeting August 11, 2020.

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

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.**



First I want to say thank you to everyone who's watched the online services. I really appreciate your support as we move into the 21st century with streaming our services online. I also have to say a big thanks to Dawn Patrick and Sarah Schriber; they have helped me out, making sure that everything has been in order for our services to take place. A big thank you goes out to Heidi Smith and everyone who came to the church to sing for us over these last few months. I also want to thank Pastor Scott for stepping out of his comfort zone and getting in front of a camera.

The plan is to continue taping our services indefinitely and once we are able to obtain the new equipment that Session has approved, we will be able to start live streaming. I know that we have some friends that tune in from other states for our services each Sunday.

The Children's Message is one of my favorites to tape currently. Finding the stuffed animals for each of the children was fun. My kids and I had fun picking those out for each of our kids. Now, with the addition of Firebal and his antics, it has been a great opportunity to teach the kids some lessons.

Again, thank you to everyone. I can't wait to see what the future holds for our church. We have an amazing congregation and I have missed you. Until we're together again, I'll be with you in spirit during our online services.

Christine Callender, Social Media and Outreach Chair

"The Clipper" Challenge

We have an exciting opportunity for you to participate in—"The Clipper" Challenge. Session has approved the purchase of materials that will allow us to video tape and live stream Worship services on a continuing basis. Some memorial money is being used but the remainder of the cost will hopefully be raised with this challenge. We need to raise \$1100 by the beginning of August. The challenge is easy— when the money is raised, Pastor Scott will receive his first haircut since the COVID-19 shutdown started. Pastor has graciously agreed to grow out his curly locks for this to work. So, let us have mercy on him and try to make this challenge a quick one! Donations may be dropped off at church during business hours or look for the blue box during worship service. Thank you!



Yarn and Thread

Yarn and Thread continues to furnish baby hats for McLaren Hospital in Bay City. We are in DESPERATE need of them! The committee supplies over 80 per month. They can be crocheted or knitted. For a newborn head size, they need to be 12-13 inches in size. We are also willing to teach you how to make them on a loom. Hope you can help! For more information please contact Bonnie Pratt or Holly Wendzik.

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.



SUNDAY SHEPHERD

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 Sarah Schriber for volunteering to shepherd the congregation in July.

Robert Minard, Chair of Emergency and Disaster Committee.

Stewardship

	May 7	May 21	MTD	Contributions Only
General Fund	5647.00	5247.00	10894.00	Monthly Budget Needs: \$9,166
Building Fund	230.00	130.00	360.00	Monthly Budget Needs: \$367
Per Capita	60.00	30.00	90.00	Yearly Budget: \$3,999.03
Initial Offering	5.00	5.00	10.00	Yearly Budget: \$658

Faithfulness has taken on a new meaning for our congregation in the last few months. Your trust in our church staff and session to continue to take care of our beautiful church building, property, membership, and well-being, even when you are not here in person, has been overwhelming! Thank you Lord and Thank You all for your support!

Weekly deposits will take place again when we are gathering for worship beginning July 5. Contributions can be dropped off in the prayer box at church, or mailed in. The On-line contributions will be up and running soon. Thank you and God bless you all!
Dawn Patrick, Financial Secretary



Check this out!!! (Coming Soon) Contributions can now be made online through the Square. We currently use the Square program for credit card payments at our dinners and events. The link is available on our website.



"Guess Who?"

Can you guess who this person is? Put your answer and your name on the paper provided at the south entrance table. Good luck!

1. What is your favorite Hymn and why?
A: "In the Garden", because I remember singing it as a youth.
2. Where were you born?
A: Flint, Michigan
3. What is your favorite Bible verse and why?
A: Mark 10:27, With God everything is possible. Because it says it all!
4. Are you married?
A: Yes
5. Who would you invite to have breakfast with?
A: My sister.
6. Where did you go to school/Are you still attending?
A: Montrose, MI and not in school.
7. Where do you work and what do you do?
A: Home and anything I want.
8. What are you working towards?
A: Being skinnier. Ha Ha.
9. How many siblings do you have?
A: Two living and two deceased.
10. How many are in your family or at same address?
A: Two at the same address.

Thank you! Member Care

THANK
YOU!

Building and Grounds

Thank you to Ken Maurer and Javon Cassiday for installing air conditioner units in the upstairs rooms. Thank you to Jim and Cindy Maher for installing the air units in the fellowship hall. Thank you Adam Smith, Jim and Brian Maher, and Pete McIntosh for mowing. Thank you to Randy and Logan Patrick, Jeff Reed, Jason Reed, Ken Maurer and Larry Keller for installing the new outdoor lights and vinyl. Thank you to Floyd and Elizabeth Roebuck, Pete and Barb McIntosh and Dave and Cheryl O'Connell, and Holly Wendzik for maintaining our flower beds. Thank you to Neal Rogers for the donation of cleaning materials. You are all a blessing!



Thank you to our choir members for adding their beautiful voices to our online services! Glen and Erma Tanner, Carl Tanner, Cheryl O'Connell, and Lillian Ostrom.



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. The church is located at 12265 Church St, Birch Run.

Birch Run 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. All recipients must fill out a form to receive items.

Food Pantry

Ss. Francis & 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 3:00 pm, or by appointment. Please call (989) 624-9098 for more information. Church is located at 12157 Church St., Birch Run. Donations are also welcome!

Frankenmuth Area Caregiver Support Group

Cross Roads Counseling Ministries is sponsoring a FREE caregiver support group that will meet every fourth Thursday of each month. Brian Wilson, Licensed Professional Counselor, will be the facilitator. Meetings take place at the Winter Village (formerly Independence Village), Harmony Hall, 255 Mayer Road, Frankenmuth, MI. 48734. Free and open to the public. Call (989) 652-4100 for more information.

Loving God and Loving Our Neighbor in Worship

Services Set to Resume JULY 5th

Following public health and safety guidelines as set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and the Michigan Department of Health.

Virtual Worship by way of video or live-streaming will continue to take place to ensure those who choose to remain home will have a meaningful worship experience.

Those who remain home may receive a telephone call from a Session Elder in order to

What We CANNOT Do

We cannot guarantee that there will be no one present who has the virus.

We cannot guarantee that the COVID-19 virus will not be present in the church.

All people who attend public worship outdoors or indoors do so knowing that that there is a risk of contracting the virus.

WHAT WE NEED YOU TO DO

STAY HOME if you are high-risk or in any way think you have the virus or were exposed to it.

Remain in your vehicle during the duration of the worship service, which is planned to last between 30-40 minutes.

The east doors of the church building (location: the elevator entrance) will be open for bathroom usage only.

If you do depart your car to use the bathroom (or for any reason), you are asked to wear a mask and maintain a six-foot distance.

Please immediately return to your vehicle after using the bathroom.

PLEASE STAY HOME IF YOU...

- Have the virus or might have been exposed to the virus
- Feel sick or ill on any Sunday morning,
- Are At high-risk if you contract COVID-19

Outdoor Service Format

Church services will take place outdoors at 9:30 a.m. in the format of "Drive-In" worship. Drive-in worship is just that—worshipping God inside your vehicle while the service is being broadcast over a public address system. Upon arrival at church, you will pull into the parking lot guided by an attendant to a spot facing the church's south lawn.

An usher will greet you with a prepackaged Ziploc bag with all the worship items you need, including a bulletin, an attendance card, a prayer card, an offering envelope (if needed in case you didn't bring your own), and evaluation form.

Please fill out the attendance card and prayer card, and place offering in the small Ziploc bag. These items will then be collected by the returning usher.

Evaluation forms can be mailed to the church.

Session will assess and evaluate the "Drive-In" worship format at its August 11th meeting, and make changes accordingly.





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

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.