

Taymouth Tidings

“A Transitional Month”



I asked myself, “what does February mean?” Well, doing a little research on the web I uncovered “February” means a time of transition. According to the website (www.whats-your-sign.com), The Latin word “Febrarius,” comes from the Latin “Februare” meaning to *purify or expiate*. The ancient Romans used February as a month of purification and to focus on their concept and meaning of righteous living.

This quest for righteous living continues with us today. So, like the ancient Romans, let us utilize February as a month of transition. Let us move ourselves from old habits, the old ways of thinking and doing things, to new habits, a new way of thinking and conducting our lives. I know some of us, including myself, made some New Year resolutions. I can imagine for you as well as myself change does not easily come. Often our old behaviors and thinking get in the way and overtake our best intentions of creating new behaviors and thoughts. Thus, our New Year resolutions are short-lived.

I would like you to join me this month of February—going on a quest to seek change. I would like for us to get into the mind-frame of thinking about the meaning and power of Jesus’ resurrection, and how that is symbolized and lived out by us in our own baptism. Let us begin by grounding ourselves in Scripture with this quote from Paul’s Letter to the Romans: “Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.” (Rom. 6:4)

Righteous living is walking in the newness of life in Jesus Christ. Jesus’ resurrection gives us the power and ability to start anew, to start over, to start again. This is the meaning of making a transition. Life is experienced in its many trials and tribulations. The Holy Spirit enables us to transcend this life of woe so eloquently expressed in the gospel song, “A Poor Wayfaring Stranger,” to a new life of joy in our walk with God.

I have discovered through my perseverance in living that my wounds of the body, mind, and soul have become a source of power. This source of power is grounded in Scripture and depicted by the Apostle Paul in his 6th chapter of his Letter to the Romans. What helped me to realize this was a deep insight provided by a devotion I read nearly 30 years ago from a religious writer named Edward Hays. He described a person’s wounds and scars, the visible and invisible, is a source of power if we do not become frightened by their sight.

Edward Hays writes in his book, *St. George the Dragon*: “... *You must not give in to the voice of your scars, the voice of the times you trusted and were betrayed, loved and rejected, did your best and was laughed at. Do not give weight to the scars left because you were slighted or were made to feel less than others. Instead, when those voices call you to react with envious or jealous feelings, do exactly the opposite. When they say ‘run away,’ you must stay. When they whisper, ‘distance yourself,’ then come all the closer. You must transform their power, not destroy it! ...Happiness, health, holiness and all the rest come when we have made your injuries into glorious wounds.*” (Hays, pp. 14-15)

Indeed, February is a time of transition. Let us take off the clothes of our “old self” and put on new clothes to reflect our “new self.” Let February become the transitional space to lick our wounds and be healed. Let us discover the still, quiet voice of God within us and about us that calls us to not listen to the angry voices of our wounds, but to the friendly voices of kindness, generosity, and love.

Shalom,

Pastor Scott

FEBRUARY 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.	6. 12:00 p.m. Bible Study. 7:00 p.m. Choir.	7.	8. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Church Family Night. (Sponsored by the Men's Group).	9.
10. 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School. 11:30 a.m. Christian Education Meeting.	11.	12. 7:00 p.m. Session.	13. 12:00 p.m. Bible Study. 7:00 p.m. Choir.	14.	15.	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. 7:00 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.	27. No Bible Study this week. 7:00 p.m. Choir.	28.		

SESSION ROUND UP – JANUARY 2019:

- Training and Education presented by Rev. Kroener. Reviewed Page 5 of Foundation Workbook Book 2.
- Meeting called to order and opened with prayer by Rev. Kroener, Moderator at [7:30 pm](#).
- 9 members were present. 3 members excused along with the Financial Secretary/Bookkeeper, Dawn Patrick.
- Approval was given to Christine Callender to record Minutes as Sharon Leach had another event to attend.
- Accepted agenda as presented.
- Approved minutes with corrections of [December 11, 2018](#) Stated Session Meeting.
- Approved transfer of membership.
- Lilian Ostrom has agreed to be the Elder Commissioner to Presbytery for 2019.
- Committee members selected to the following: Audit (Financial Review): Bonnie Pratt- chairperson; Nominating: Sharon Peters- chairperson; Muriel Lakey Scholarship: Christine Callender- chairperson, Nancy Schriber; Emergency & Disaster Planning: Rob Minard.
- Treasurer's report accepted as printed.
- Building and Grounds meeting moved to January 29, 2019 and set to replace February's meeting because Gary Brabant will be out of town. The Sunday School room was set to be painted on 01/16/2019 by Missy Peters.
- Finance Committee to begin having Quarterly meetings. Next meeting will be in March.
- The "Adopt a Family Giving Tree" went over quite well. We collected 60 gifts as well as food items that were delivered on December 19, 2018. The holiday treats and cookie walk brought in \$739.00 between December 15-16, 2018. Mission Journey sheets were passed out on January 6, 2019 & about 24 were mailed.
- Worship: Avg. Attendance for December 2018 - 91. Christmas Eve Service - 5pm - 73 attended, 8pm - 52 attended. Jason Reed will continue to be in charge of Communion set up.
- Christian Education: 16 children participated in Children's Christmas Program. 48 bags of candy were given out over the Christmas services. \$235.00 - Noisy Offering, Next Noisy Offering is February 24th. Pancake Breakfast - \$288.55 profit for the Youth Group. Confirmation classes were originally scheduled for Thursdays beginning March 7th @ 6:30 pm for 1 ½ hours, It has now been rescheduled for a one day class on Saturday, April 6th in order to accommodate our youth's schedules. Pizza will be provided for lunch. Confirmation ceremony to be held Palm Sunday, April 14.
- Member Care delivered 13 care baskets on December 18, 2018.
- Men's Group hosted a game night on [January 11, 2019 @ 7 pm](#). Next game night is scheduled for February 8, 2019.
- 150th Committee are working on formatting photos for directory and getting them submitted.
- Pastor's Report: Officiated at funeral for Jerry Gonzales, December 31, 2018 at the church.
- Dedicated Frances Faye Roebuck on December 16, 2018.
- Approved a sponsorship to be printed in the Birch Run High School Yearbook.
- Adjournment with prayer at 9:25 pm.
- Christine Callender,
- Acting Clerk of Session

MISSION COMMITTEE NEWS:

Mission Committee is working on some new projects for the year of 2019. Details are still in the planning stages and you will be notified once completed. One of the project for Missions this year is the **COMMUNION FOOD DRIVE**. We are collecting *non-perishable and current expiration dates of items* for the food pantry at SS Francis and Clare Catholic Church in Birch Run. There will be a drop off place by the south and west entrances to the church. Food will normally be collected on the dates we take communion but you may drop off items anytime. Items will be delivered once a month to the food pantry. This winter is a good time to work on those projects you would like to donate to the **MISSION MARKETPLACE** that will take place on May 5, 2019. The items will be for sale in the fellowship hall following the morning worship service. There is still time to participate in the **MISSION JOURNEY**. The proceeds from this event will be split 50/50 between 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.

With the end of the Mission Journey coming March 2, 2019 we will be starting a new mission with the name of **SECRET SUPPORT** (this is kind of like a secret pal). On Sunday, March 3, 2019 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 children story time, these cards will be distributed to those in attendance. You are not to receive your own card nor tell anyone whose name you received. During the days of Lent you are to pray 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 if you like or keep it a secret, this is your choice. The Mission Committee is so proud of our church family with all your help in our projects. You may not be able to give to every project we sponsor, but we try to provide a variety of projects that support a variety of needs. Keep watching for future projects offered by the Missions Committee.

Thank you,
Bonnie Pratt.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:

There will be **NO** meeting in February, 2018. The next scheduled meeting is on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. We are always looking for new members, so come and spend some fellowship time with us.

MEN'S MINISTRY:

Please reserve the date of Friday, February 8th, 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.

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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Calling all Disciples! We are so excited to be offering an opportunity to our youth to become disciples. A "disciple primarily refers to a dedicated follower of Jesus". In our Presbyterian Church, we provide an opportunity for confirmation. This is a profession of faith that "seeks to provide youth with a foundational understanding of our faith, tradition and Presbyterian practices". Many of our young people are curious and eager to learn about our faith. All students, 8th grade and older, are invited to participate in a confirmation class on Saturday, April 6, from 9am to 3pm. Then, if the youth chooses, they may become confirmed in our church on Sunday, April 14, during the worship service. Please let me know if your youth will be attending! Our Christian Education Committee will have a meeting on Sunday, February 10, at 11:30am. The next noisy offering will be on Sunday, February 24. Jesus said; "Come, follow me, and I'll show you how to fish for people".

God Bless!
Dawn Patrick

NOISY OFFERING:

Our next Noisy Offering, Sunday, February 24th. This coin offering is received by our children in noisy metal buckets. When you put coins into these buckets you "make a joyful noise unto the Lord". This simple act is an expression of thanks for what we have received. It is also a way for us to renew our commitment to meeting the needs of others in response to Jesus' command "You give them something to eat."

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.

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

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.

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:

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