

PRESBYTERIAN NEWS

First Presbyterian Church of Paw Paw, Michigan

Volume 85, Issue 8

August 2017

THE CHURCH AND OUR CHILDREN: GETTING THERE TOGETHER

"I tell you the truth, unless you turn from your sins and become like little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven." - *Matthew 18:3*

For several months now, we have been talking about what we believe about children and youth, their importance and value in our church and community, and what it looks like to be a community of faith for all ages. This summer especially, we've had several opportunities to live out the experiences and live into the questions that help us discover our beliefs:

- Our church sent four young people to **Camp Greenwood** this summer, where they enjoyed nature, swimming, worshipping outdoors, and making new friends with campers from across Michigan and camp counselors from across the globe.
- Several of our Middle and High School students helped pack health kits for they Synod's **Mobile Health Fair**, and then visited the fair, which inspired us to think about more ways that we can support this ministry.
- Two of our High School students and I joined other pastors and youth from our presbytery on a week-long trip to Montreat, North Carolina for **Montreat's Youth Conference: A Missing Peace**. We played and worshipped together, and engaged the challenging topic of finding peace in our time, the whole while discovering the many joys and blessings of life in community together.

As you read and see more about these experiences in this newsletter, consider whether our youth and children's ministry is reflecting the values we have been discussing and using to draft a Statement of Faith about Children and Youth for our church. Here is the latest draft:

We believe that Children and Youth are a vital part of the Body of Christ and their participation in our community of faith is essential to the present and future church. God moves through them, and Christ moves them in ways that reveal the Kingdom of God. Both adults and children are equally poised to hear and convey God's Holy Spirit, through our weaknesses and strengths.

We believe we can best support children and youth through a personal, whole-hearted and joy-filled environment free of judgment or stereotypes. We should be open to all types of families and aim to meet them where they are. We have a responsibility to nurture, guide and support the youth and children of this church and this community. We are committed to listening to them, sharing our stories with them and teaching them the word of God.

We believe that our children's ideas about God and worship should be received without fear of rejection. We've got to listen to them, celebrate their gifts and risk trying new things. We value their questions, and commit to walking alongside them as they discern their own answers.

What do you believe? Will you take this statement of faith up in prayer in the coming weeks? Please listen for what the Spirit is speaking to *your* heart, and let me know what you discover!

Peace, *Tiffany*



FORMATION COMMISSION: VBS IS A SUCESS!

Over 160 kids and adults enjoyed the “Maker Fun Factory” community VBS, held at Paw Paw Later Elementary last month. Our church provided snacks and volunteers to lead the youth through several experiences each day that included music, Bible stories, recreation, crafts and learning about the need for clean water in Peru. Thanks to all who supported this community faith-building event!



Marge and Les make sure all hands are clean before they have snack!



Keelin McCafferty volunteered as a Jr. Crew Leader.

CAMP GREENWOOD: MAKING MEMORIES, CONTINUING TRADITIONS

Our church sponsored four young adventurers for week-long stays at Camp Greenwood this Summer. Katelyn Baney, who attended with her friend, Chloe, said she enjoyed practicing archery at the target range and riding horses through a river during Adventure Camp in July. Keelin and Bridget McCafferty participated in “Music In the Woods,” which also included swimming, fishing and running around outdoors.



Campers perform at the end of “Music In the Woods” camp.

MONTREAT

Pastor Tiffany, Logan McCafferty and Ari Hamrick traveled to Montreat in the mountains of North Carolina with a delegation of 23 youth and adults from our presbytery. There, we shared a spirited week of energizers, thought-provoking keynote lectures and small group discussions, and learned about “life together,” by sharing meals and community in a rustic lodge. Thanks to Presbyterian Women for their generous support of the Montreat and Greenwood trips!

Logan and Ari join friends from PLM and all over for worship at Montreat.



MISSION TRIP TO GREENSKY HILL INDIAN MISSION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

This past June, Paw Paw's Dick and Sally Schallhorn joined members from Lansing First Presbyterian for camping, service and worship at the Greensky Hill Indian Mission church in Charlevoix. Participants enjoyed a lovely campsite, and worship that featured the Lord's Prayer and Apostles Creed in Ojibew. Repairs were made to the grounds and to some of the residences on the mission. Other activities included Native American pottery making and serving at a youth camp. Please keep this June trip in mind for next year as we would like to have more participants.



MOBILE HEALTH FAIR MINISTRY

The Mobile Health Fair sponsored by the Synod of The Covenant made a stop in our neighborhood in July. The six person team provides free initial screenings for vision, dental, blood sugar, cardio pulmonary issues, and upon request HIV testing. Screenings were done at the Van Buren ISD's Summer Migrant Program and at one of the migrant camps in the Decatur area.

The Health Fair is supported in part by our annual Per Capita offering and was sponsored for the time they were in Paw Paw by our church. Thanks to Dave and Jan Wilder who again hosted the MHF team. A big thank you to Marge McKee and the Presbyterian Women who put together over 70 health kits that were handed out to those who participated in the screenings.

Over the 2 and ½ days of screenings the team saw around 150 children and 20 adults. Follow up care for those who were identified with health issues is left up to the individual or host site. The VBISD summer migrant program is working on getting additional care and appointments for the most urgent of those identified.



Young boys proudly show off their health kits after screenings at the summer migrant education program in Lawrence.

Some of our church friends brought some watermelon and joined the MHF team at the camp in Decatur. Pictured from left to right are Kathy McCloskey, Pastor Tiffany McCafferty, Nathaniel McCloskey, Logan McCafferty, Connor Welling, Taryn Welling, Kendal Welling, and Migrant Program employee Matt Kovach.



DEACON UPDATES



The Deacons send out a big THANK YOU to all who donated items for the Mobile Health Kits! 70 Health Kits were assembled for use at the Mobile Health Fair.

Euchre and Pot Luck nights will be reinstated in September. Our first Euchre night will be Saturday, September 16th at 7:00 pm. Potluck will be Thursday, September 21st at 6:30 pm.



Also, since everyone loves Ice Cream Sundaes, we will have an Ice Cream Sunday in August, September, and October!! YUM!! Toppings, regular and sugar free ice cream will be provided in place of cookies, etc. for fellowship.

Please save these dates on your calendar!

WINGS OF GOD NEWS

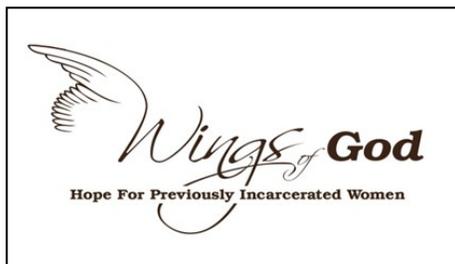
The June Golf outing went well with over \$11,000 net proceeds. Thanks to all who participated.

There are currently six residents in the house with two more coming to fill it to capacity.

A big thank you to First Presbyterian for the use of the church for a Board of Directors' retreat in June.

Wings of God will be managing the Hole-In-One Golfing event for Grape and Wine, so golfers, get your practice in!

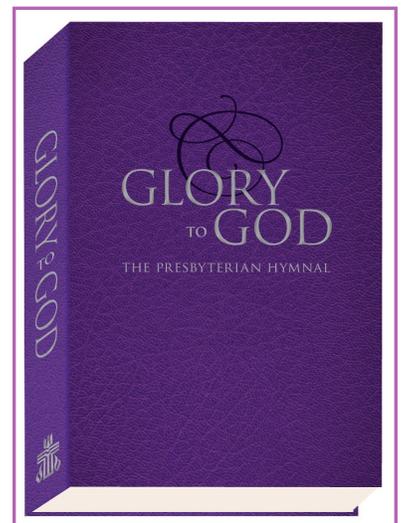
Bill Buhl
Moderator



WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMISSION NEWS

The "Glory to God" hymnal purchase campaign is in full swing. We have, to date, had 58 hymnals purchased by congregation members. Orders will be accepted through August 20!

Bill Buhl
Moderator





ADMINISTRATION

2017 pledged giving total through the end of June is \$64,756, which is \$5,244 under budget. We have also received \$6,060 in unpledged giving during the first 6 months of the year, which is also slightly under budget. Individual giving statements were mailed out in July. Your efforts to keep your pledge up-to-date are greatly appreciated!

Administration/Finance

OUR OLD FASHIONED PICNIC—JULY 30, 2017

Over 60 people come out to enjoy the beautiful weather, games, food and extended family at our annual church iconic. The Baney and the Buhls proved to be contenders in the water balloon toss, and Keelin McCafferty won the guessing game with a 249 golf tees (the water bottle held 245 golf tees). Thanks to our deacons and all who came for making this a wonderful event!



Our Cooks!



Grass Hockey



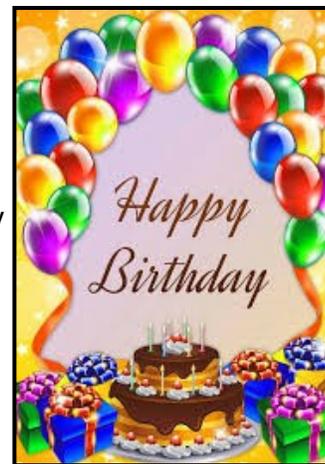
ANNIVERSARIES:

- 08/02 Stephen & Kathy McCloskey
- 08/04 Craig & Lynn Hess
- 08/07 Nate & Wendy Pursley
- 08/10 Tom & Mary Ellen Smith
- 08/10 Wayne & Kathleen Weisner
- 08/12 Jeff Brown & Kathleen Murphy-Brown
- 08/13 Richard & Danean Baker
- 08/16 Will & Sue Pugsley
- 08/20 Harold & Zoe Schuitmaker
- 08/22 Ryan & Heather Jahr
- 08/24 Heather Smith-Johnson & Stephen Johnson
- 08/31 Jacob & Susan Bolton V



BIRTHDAYS:

- 08/01 Cynthia Marcelletti
- 08/01 Cal Beck
- 08/03 Rick Boven
- 08/06 Kendall Welling
- 08/07 Rhonda Riegle
- 08/09 Gene Sahr
- 08/11 Ruth Johnson
- 08/12 Rebecca Briones
- 08/15 Crecia Tiffany
- 08/16 George Bolton IV
- 08/16 Ross Beck
- 08/18 Eilene Summe
- 08/20 Taryn Welling
- 08/24 Brooke Beattie
- 08/26 Nancy Turk
- 08/26 Amy Weaver
- 08/27 Sadie Imus
- 08/28 Jean Hatton
- 08/29 Tammy Hulst
- 08/30 Edie Myers
- 08/30 Tara Burkett
- 08/30 Nolan Silber-Smith



Editor's Note: The birthdays and anniversaries are computer-generated. If we are missing your special day or our information is incorrect, please notify Sue in the church office at 657-3111 or email: firstpres1@btc-bci.com.



Head Usher for August is Jean Taylor. Please contact Jean at 657-7293 or jean_taylor23@comcast.net.

AUGUST GREETERS:

- August 6—Bill & Les Buhl
- August 13 - Dan & Tammy Hulst
- August 20 - Dick & Sally Schallhorn
- August 27 - Frank & Adele Walters, Dee Outman

SINGLE LADIES NIGHT OUT

For our August event, the ladies voted to have a pot luck at Pat Peters home on Tuesday, August 29th. Starting at 5:00 pm. This will be the 3rd year we have decided to have pot-luck at someone's home. Such a wonderful way to spend time together, in a more relaxed atmosphere, where the ladies can really let their hair down! Please bring a dish to pass. This has been very successful and almost all of the ladies of the group have attended (22 in total). More information to come.



Check your email!

First Presbyterian Church
120 Pine Street
Paw Paw, MI 49079

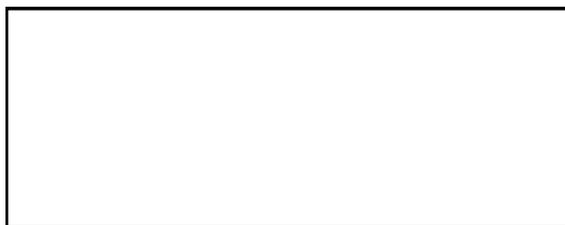
Return Service Requested

Presbyterian News

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120 Pine St – 269-657-3111 – firstpres1@btc-bci.com – <http://www.pawpawpres.org>

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- **August 6th**- Recognition Party for Pat McKinney (Eleanor's Pantry) from 2:00 - 5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. And ice cream sundaes after 10:00 service in Fellowship Hall.
- **August 12th** - Michigan's Adventure with Presbytery of Lake Michigan - ride some rides and see friends from Triennium and Urban Plunge. \$45 includes parking ticket and lunch.
- **August 15th** - Session meeting at 6:15 in Library. Deacons not meeting this month.
- **August 26th** - Men's Breakfast. Come men and join in fellowship as a hearty home cooked breakfast is prepared in Fellowship Hall at 8:30 am.
- **August 29nd** - Single Ladies Night Out. This month we will be having a pot luck at one of the ladies home. Bring a dish to pass. This will be our 3rd potluck and is always such a success. (See pg. 7).
- **August 30th** - Cents-Ability offering taken. Local portion benefits Eleanor's Pantry and United Christian Services. Bring your change and make a change.



- **September 11th** - Paw Paw Community Chorus begins rehearsals for their 18th Annual Christmas Concert. Rehearsals begin on Monday, September 11, at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.
- **September 16th** - Euchre Party, 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.
- **September 21st** - Potlucks resume, 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.