OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Coldwater, MI is to:

- † Glorify God by bringing others into Communion with Him,
- † Nurture the spiritual, emotional, physical and social needs of its congregation,
- † Encourage faithful stewardship of the God given gifts of time, talent, and substance, and
- † Be sensitive to the needs of our greater community.



Sunday Schedule:

11:00 am Worship Service Coffee & Fellowship Hour follows the service

Sunday School Schedule: 9:30 am. Adult Sunday School Everyone is welcome



Finance Committee Report ~\$\$\$\$

**Monthly Needs for 2022 budget

Needed Monthly to meet budget:\$12,772.00

Needed weekly to meet budget \$3,193.00

\$3,680.00 Annual Per Capita: payment

**FINANCIAL REPORT FROM: **

SEPTEMBER 2022 INCOME AND EXPENSES

INCOME AND DONATIONS: \$13949

PAYMENTS AND PAYROLL: \$14876

WEEKLY GIVING

10/23-\$3530

10/30-\$1846

11/6- \$2510

11/13-\$2631

A Note from the Treasurer

Please be in prayer about financial giving... Offerings seem to be on the decline, we have not been receiving enough tithes to cover basic expenses. Thank you.



December liturgists

Dec. 4- Bob Stewart

Dec. 11- Tarina Macklem

Dec. 18- Beth Montgomery

Dec. 24- Pastor Susan

Dec. 25- Pastor Susan

DECEMBER COUNTERS

Dennis Farwell

Pete Metters

Carol Ludlow

<u>January Liturgists</u>

Jan. 1- Julie Lewis

Jan. 8- Chris Doll

Jan. 15- Bruce Gregory

Jan. 22- Tarina Macklem

Jan. 29- Linda Stewart

January Counters

Bob Stewart

Beth Montgomery

Jan Breckenridge

FROM PASTOR SUSAN'S DESK

Dear Friends of Coldwater Presbyterian church, As we approach the Holiday season this year we are challenged to act kinder, offer encouragement, seek peace, and love others for Jesus sake, because He first loved us.

We can find it challenging to step up our giving and doing right now but I would like to suggest that each of us try to do one truly kind thing each week of Advent (preferably not for our own families). These things could be like: a \$25 food card to a stranger that looks like they might need help; offering to walk someone's dog if that person has just had surgery; offering to do someones grocery shopping who cannot go out of the house yet; fill a strangers tank with gas; invite someone over for tea and cookies that you usually wouldn't' invite; enjoy the Christmas season with others.

I realize it may be hard to offer hopes and dreams for us, but not for God. Please find new and wonderful ways to offer Jesus' love to others these next 4 weeks. You will be glad you did.

Christmas blessings, Susan





Advent is all about Waiting: Waiting for the great event to take place. The Hebrews waited centuries for the Messiah. They continued to hope in God's promises. And one day, God fulfilled those promises in Jesus. Advent is all about waiting. Waiting through the weeks, waiting through the night for Jesus to be born, in Bethlehem and in our hearts. Advent is about being in a state of readiness. The scriptures for Advent are about end items, fulfillment, promises kept. Consequently we will be offering a new, short video to enhance our Advent services at the beginning of the services each week. I'm not going to tell you about the video--just please be patient and understand that it is about WAITING.

Waiting FOR Jesus and Waiting ON Jesus.

Happy Advent dear friends and Merry Christmas!

Christmas blessings,

Susan

Your Deacon and Session Information

DEACON IN CHARGE

December: Bob Montgomery

January: Sue Paarlberg

JANUARY USHERS

Jan. 1st- Sue P. & Linda S.

Jan. 8th- Jeff & Nikki Paarlberg

Jan. 15th- Jeff & Nikki Paarlberg

Jan. 22nd- Sue P. & Lois W.

Jan. 29th- Sue P. & Jan C.

Communion Dates

Dec. 24th & 25th

Jan. 8th

MEETINGS:

~ Next Deacon Meeting Dec. 4th following the worship service, during Communion clean up.

Session Board Members

Paul Hershberger- 903-767-3332 Velma Cole - 517-639-7272 Linda Stewart 517-617-1399 Jan Breckenridge 517-317-2554 Julie Lewis 517-278-2647 Chris Doll 517-278-5259 Bruce Gregory 517-278-6502.

Lisa Renshaw 517-278-8070

Deacon Board Members Bob Montgomery 517-278-5028

Karen Maxson 248-496-9413

Sue Paarlberg 517-279-7731 Lorie Hershberger 517-227-9030

Cheryl Metters 517-736-4040

Bob Stewart 517-617-0626

Session Board Members

Moderator Rev. Susan Reichenberg

567-242-8722

Clerk of Session Pete Metters

313-244-1570

Treasurer Paul Hershberger

903-767-3332

~Next Session Meeting Dec. 15th at 6:00 pm



Join us with your Family & Friends
Friday December 24th
at 7:00 pm
Christmas Eve
For Communion and a
Candlelight Service

Prayers and Praises

PRAYERS FOR:

- † Chapel by the Sea Presbyterian Church Congregates of Fort Meyers Beach, Fl. Sanctuary was destroyed in Hurricane Ian. (Stewart's attend in Spring)
- † Dick Spalding, a friend of Bob & Linda Stewart
- † Darlene Corey, Sister in law of Jan Corey.
- † Benjamin Watkins 9 months old, as they grieve his passing. (Friends of Linda Stewart)
- † Donald Paarlberg's family and friends as they grieve his death on 09-18-2022
- † Carolyn Yoder, Rev. Julie Elemore's mother
- † Kathy Spalding, a friend's daughter of Bob and Linda Stewart.
- † Barbara Cowden, former member.
- † Monte Reichenberg
- † Bethany Stob, Pete and Cheryl Metter's niece.
- † Cindy Picard, Bob Montgomery's niece.
- † Jennifer Layher, coworker of Dennis Farwell
- † Nancy Burkeen, coworker of Dennis Farwell
- † Kim Simpson, cousin of Linda Stewart.
- † Ukraine

10/30

- † 2 ¢ A Meal Offering
- † All Family Promise food pantry contributions
- † Mid-week fellowship

11/6-

- †Our health
- †Heat to keep us warm
- †The beautiful leaves falling

11/13-

- †1113 cake mixes donated!
- †Upcoming holiday time together
- † All the helping hands of the congregation

11/20-

- †Time to gather as a family for Thanksgiving
- †A beautiful world
- † God's love

FPC Presbyterian Women

December, 2022

Once a year, Deborah Circle members select a charity to which we donate individually. This year two charities were selected, a local one and a national one. The total collected was \$335.00 to be divided equally between the Coldwater Family Promise and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Fund, specifically, for the victims of Hurricane Ian.

Every year both Sarah and Deborah Circles collect money to be sent to the PW of Lake Michigan Presbytery. This year the following will be sent from Deborah Circle:

Thank Offering - \$110.80, Birthday Offering - \$124.00, and Least Coin - \$38.87.

The Presbyterian Women invite you To their Christmas Dessert Tea With a Boutique Date: Saturday Dec. 10th, 2022 Time: 1:30 pm Where: First Presbyterian Church 52 Marshall Street Coldwater RSVP by December 1, 2022 Beth Montgomery 517-278-5028 Church Office 517-278-6068



FPC's Outreach Report

DIAPER PANTRY WORK SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

12/1- Cindy & Jessica

12/8- Jan & Sue P.

12/15- Lois & Dean W.

12/22- Closed

12/29- Closed

Diaper Pantry Volunteers: We appreciate you so much and we have a favor to ask... During the time between clients, if possible, please restock diapers, wipes, and bags. Thank you!

The Diaper Pantry continues to serve our community in need. To date for 2022, we have handed out 1289 packages, which include one week's worth of diapers, and wipes. If we have the supplies of lotion, shampoo and baby wash and there is a request, these items are included. We welcome new volunteers, if you would like to volunteer in this outreach please talk to Beth Montgomery or call the church office.

BRANCH COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

794 pounds of food has been collected to date for the Food Pantry. Thank you so much for your donations! 1113 Cake mixes were donated to the Food Pantry in October/November! Thank you!!!!

-Food Pantry Items needed for December are boxed cereal.

Looking Ahead: There will be a Taize Service

January 11th at 6pm

A Note from the Office

We love to hear from you! How can we pray for you this month? How can we celebrate the Lord's blessings in our lives?!

Free Medical Clinic

The clinic hours are: Thursdays from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Thank you so much for the immeasurably valuable work you have done for our community for the past 20 years, serving 36,261 (2002-2022) To all the volunteers who have supported the clinic for 20 years, Thank you! If you have questions about the clinic you can call the church office during church office hours or the clinic during clinic hours at 517-278-6068.

Stay safe and healthy!

LECTIONARY FOR THE LORD'S DAY:

Dec. 4- *Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12*

Dec. 11- Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 1:47-55; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Dec. 18- Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25

Dec. 25-Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-4, 5-12; John 1:1-14

~Advent Readers~~

Nov. 27th- Lois & Dean Williams

Dec. 4th- Lisa & Mike Renshaw

Dec. 11th- Jan & Kate Breckenridge

Dec. 18th- Sue Paarlberg & family

Dec. 24th- Linda & Bob Stewart

1. Birthdays

Claude Coleman 12/02

Jay Cole 12/19

Peter Rufenacht 12/20

Randy Zorn 12/22

Chris Doll 12/23

and

Anniversaries'

Jerry & Karen Maxson 12/19 Dean & Lois Williams 12/23 Recipes-

Chocolate Peppermint Pinwheel Cookies

3 ounces unsweetened chocolate, melted

1 egg yolk

1/2 cup crushed candy canes or peppermint candies

3/4 teaspoon baking powder 1 cup unsalted butter, softened

1 egg, beaten

Powdered sugar, for rolling out dough

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1 teaspoon peppermint extract

3 cups all-purpose flour

1/4 teaspoon salt

1 cup sugar

1 tablespoon milk

- 1. Divide the dough in half and add chocolate and vanilla to 1 half and incorporate with hands. Add egg yolk, peppermint extract, and crushed candy to other half of dough and incorporate with hands. Cover both with plastic and chill for approximately 5 minutes. Roll out doughs separately to approximately 1/4-inch thickness. Place peppermint dough on top of chocolate and press together around the edges. Using waxed paper or flexible cutting board underneath, roll dough into log. Wrap in waxed paper and refrigerate for 2 hours.
- 2. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.
- 3.Remove dough from the refrigerator and cut into 1/2-inch slices. Place cookies 1-inch apart on greased baking sheet, parchment, or silicone baking mat and bake for 12 to 13 minutes, rotating the pan halfway through cooking time. Remove from oven and let sit on baking sheet for 2 minutes, then move to a wire rack to cool completely. Store in an airtight container for up to 1 week.
- 4. Sift together flour, baking powder, and salt. Set aside. Place butter and sugar in large bowl of electric stand mixer and beat until light in color. Add egg and milk and beat to combine. Put mixer on low speed, gradually add flour, and beat until mixture pulls away from the side of the bowl. Divide the dough in half, wrap in waxed paper, and refrigerate for 2 hours.

Peppermint Meringues

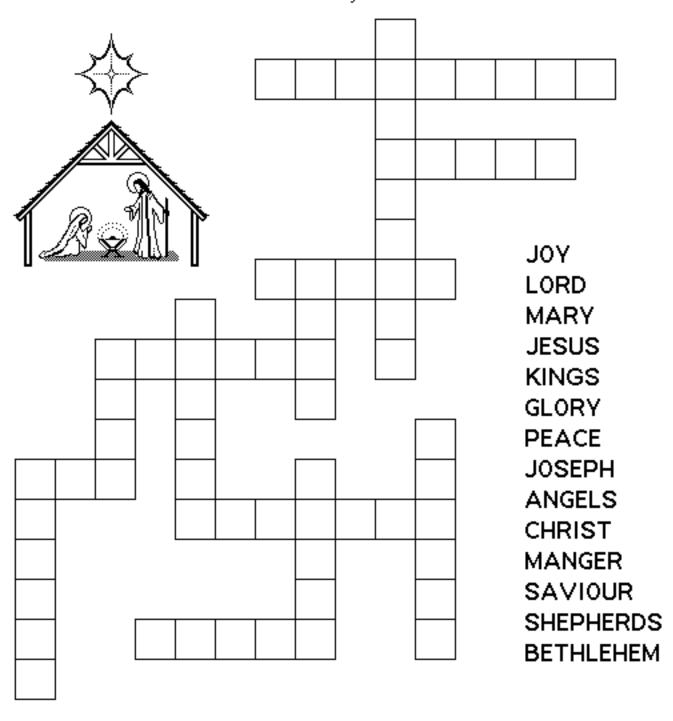
3 large egg whites 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract Pinch fine salt 3/4 cup superfine sugar Red food coloring, preferably gel

- 1. Position oven racks in the top and bottom thirds of the oven and preheat to 250 degrees F. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper.
- 2. Beat the egg whites and salt with an electric mixer on medium-high speed in a large bowl until foamy. Add the cream of tartar and continue to beat until soft peaks form. While beating, add the sugar 1 tablespoon at a time. Continue to beat until stiff peaks form. Beat in the peppermint.
- 3. Fold the top of a pastry bag fitted with a round tip over and down a few inches. Dip a paintbrush in the food coloring. Starting inside the pastry tip, brush a stroke of food coloring from the tip to the top of the bag. Repeat with 3 more evenly spaced strokes. Fill the bag with the meringue; try to spoon it directly into the center so as not to smudge the food coloring (though some smudging is inevitable). Pipe 1-inch-diameter mounds of meringue spaced 1 inch apart onto the prepared baking sheets.
- 4. Bake until the meringues are no longer glossy and feel light and dry when picked up, about 1 hour. Open the oven for a few minutes, then turn it off and shut the door. Leave the meringues in the oven until they are completely dry inside, about 2 hours. The meringues can be stored in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 2 days.

Kids and Adults alike Connection...

Christmas Crossword

Make all the words fit into this crossword. Each word is only used once.



Christmas Poinsettias

In Wemory Or In Honor

Why the Poinsettia?

The shape of the poinsettia flower and leaves are sometimes thought as a symbol of the Star of Bethlehem which led the Wise Men to Jesus. The red colored leaves symbolize the blood of Christ. The white leaves represent his purity.

The poinsettia should be called the plant of HOPE!

Each year, the Poinsettias in our sanctuary are a beautiful
tribute to those we honor, whether as a memorial,
or an opportunity to say "we love you"
to our family and friends.
These beautiful poinsettias are purchased through
Neitzert's Greenhouse and the cost of each poinsettia
is \$13.00 or 2 for \$25.00
\$10.00 will go to the cost of the poinsettia
& \$2.50 to \$3.00 will be donated to the decoration fund.
(this fund will help to spruce up current decorations)

Please return order form(on the back) to the office by Thursday December. 14th

<u>and make checks payable to the</u>

First Presbyterian Church.

Name:_			
I will:] take	mine home	
	ns will	e mine to be distributed. deliver to some of our more restricted friends, those una about.)	able
Check t	he box	for either Memory or Honor	
Memor Of	y Hono Of	r	
		Name:	
Cash		Or Check (#)	
Total ar	nount	enclosed	



December 2022

8.9						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				l -9am Sanctuary DecoPastor Susan gone -4-6 DP & Clinic -Res. due for Tea -Cindy/Jessica	2 -Pastor Susan gone	3 -Pastor Susan gone
4 -Pastor Susan gone -Deacon Ming	5 -Pastor Susan gone Cindy/Jessica	6 -Pastor Susan gone -9:304M Westminster Presbytery Church Grand Rapids -Cindy/Jessica	7 -Pastor Susan gone Jessica	8 -Pastor Susan gone -4-6 DP & Clinic Jessica	9 -Pastor Susan Back	10 -1.30 pm Christmas Dessert Tea & Boutique
11	12 -12:00pm Staff Christmas Party Jessica	13 Jessica	14 -Luncheon at Hope Cafe & Book Group 11-12:30 Cindy/Jessica	15 -4-6 DP & Clinic -6pm Session Mig -Poinsettia orders due Jessica	16	17
18	19 Jessica	20 Jessica	21 -Book Group 11-12:30 Jessica	22 Jessica	23	24 Holy Communion
25 Holy Communion Merry Christmas!	26 Office Closed	27 -Family Promise Week Jessica	28 -Book Group 11-12:30 Jessica	29 Jessica	30	31

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 52 MARSHALL STREET COLDWATER, MI 49036



Come Join Us On Sunday

9:30 am Adult Sunday School 11:00 am ~Worship Service 12:00 pm Coffee and Fellowship

Handicapped accessible building

Meet our Church Staff

Pastor, Rev. Susan Reichenberg
Adult Bell Choir Director, Rita Snyder
Adm. Assist, Cindy Fickle
Adm. Assist. Jessica Schneider
Accompanist, Liz Mowan

First Presbyterian Church 52 Marshall Street, Coldwater, MI 49036

Phone: 517-278-6068 2nd# 517-278-7848

 $Church \ \& \ Administrative \ Assistant \ E-mail \ Address: \ Coldwater FPC @gmail.com$

Website: https://www.firstprescoldwater.org

Rev. Susan Reichenberg (567)242-8722 sreichenberg8227@gmail.com