

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 2025 budget**

Needed Monthly to meet budget: \$12,772.00

Needed weekly to meet budget \$3,193.00

Annual Per Capita: payment \$3,680.00

****FINANCIAL REPORT FROM : ****

JANUARY 2025 INCOME AND EXPENSES

PAYMENTS AND PAYROLL: \$18,041.04

INCOME AND DONATIONS: \$15,398.00

1-5~ \$7855.

1-12~\$1590.

1-19~\$4423

1-26~\$1530

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.

FEBRUARY LITURGISTS

- 2-2- Pete Metters
- 2-9- Tarina Macklem
- 2-16-Bob Stewart
- 2-23-Lorie Hershberger

FEBRUARY COUNTERS

- Julie Lewis
- Tarina Macklem
- Velma Cole

MARCH LITURGISTS

- 3-2~ Tarina Macklem
- 3-9~ Pete Metters
- 3-16~ Paul Hershberger
- 3-23~ Lisa Renshaw
- 3-30~ Beth Montgomery

MARCH COUNTERS

- Dennis Farwell
- Pete Metters
- Carol Ludlow



Dear, dear friends of First Presbyterian Church,
Coldwater,

You are such a joy to me! As I look forward to February and what it typically means I, of course, think of LOVE. This is the month of love, the season of love and I hope for each of you, the experience of love! Love was born of God and love lives in God. . .for all of us!! We are loved by God and for God. We have been given this incredible gift JUST BECAUSE we are His! Not from anything we have done, or earned, or expect to happen in the future. We are LOVED by God just the way we are. AND, we are loved by God to Do the work God has set before us: Work only we can do. The work of loving God, serving God in whatever way God has already “called” us! Let us seek together this February, how God is calling each of us, in love, to love Him back.

With love,

Pastor Susan

SPIRITUAL MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SUSAN

I was looking at Max Lucado's message this morning about gardening. Gardening in the dead of winter you ask? Well, maybe as a hopeful sign, or maybe to reassure myself that this atrocious snow and cold will abate one day. Anyway, here are Max's thoughts. . .
"The Greenhouse of the Heart"

"Think for a moment of your heart as a greenhouse. . . . And your heart, like a greenhouse, has to be managed. Consider for a moment your thoughts as seed. Some thoughts become flowers. Others become weeds. Sow seeds of hope and enjoy optimism. Sow seeds of doubt and expect insecurity. . .

The proof is everywhere you look. Ever wonder why some people have the Teflon capacity to resist negativism and remain patient, optimistic, and forgiving? Could it be that they have diligently sown seeds of goodness and are enjoying the harvest?

Ever wonder why others have such a sour poulook? Such a gloomy attitude? You would, too, if your heart were a greenhouse of weeds and thorns."

I just read an article this morning that talked about being careful what thoughts we put in our heads. We are the controllers of our thoughts, but then our thoughts dictate our actions and reactions. The article suggested that we can be pro-active in controlling our thoughts and thus our lives. The suggestion was that we journal having a blank piece of paper with a line drawn down the center separating thoughts and actions. Then the suggestion was made to put on the left side negative possibilities and on the right side how we would deal with those same possibilities. For example: on the left dealing with rejection or critical persons we could choose (right side) to get angry and hit back OR we could decide that that statement did not define us and we could calmly move on, etc. I think the author is on to something. Something the Bible might call Trusting God for the Outcome and behaving like a Christian in the midst of conflict. So, the garden of our mind can contain flowers or weeds. It's our choice.

Max suggest we "list some positive 4 seeds we would like to sow this year in the greenhouse of our hearts. Beside each, write how it will improve our attitude."

Perhaps we can all gain some relief from this winter weather by trying this suggestion?
Faithfully, Susan

~DEACON & SESSION INFORMATION~

FEBRUARY DEACON IN CHARGE

Hope Woods & Stacey Hullinger

FEBRUARY USHERS

Communion Dates

2-2

MEETINGS:

~ Next Deacon Meeting February 2nd following the worship service, during Communion clean up.

~Next Session Meeting February 20th at 6:00 pm

~Deacon Board Members~

Bob Montgomery 517-278-5028

Lorie Hershberger 517-227-9030

Bob Stewart 517-617-0626

Hope Woods 269-275-9277

Stacey Hullinger 517-677-0074

~Session Board Members~

Moderator Rev. Susan Reichenberg

567-242-8722

Clerk of Session Peter Metters

313-244-1570

Treasurer Paul Hershberger

903-767-3332

~Session Board Members~

Paul Hershberger 903-767-3332

Linda Stewart 517-617-1399

Jan Breckenridge 517-317-2554

Chris Doll 517-278-5259

Bruce Gregory 517-278-6502

Lisa Renshaw 517-278-8070

Peter Metters 313-244-1570

Carol Ludlow 517-279-9407



Love. Grow. Serve.



- † *Karen Maxson*, in hospital
 - † *Gale Fisher's family*, Jessica's grandpa, as they mourn his passing⁽¹¹⁻¹⁸⁻²⁴⁾
 - † *Peace in USA & world*
 - † *Ruby Merkle*, as she mourns the lose of her sister in law and brother. ⁽¹¹⁻⁴⁻²⁴⁾
 - † *Jerry Nakoneczny*, infection in knee replacement⁽¹⁰⁻²⁴⁻²⁴⁾
 - † *Joy Reichenberg*, Stage 4 liver & colon cancer⁽¹⁰⁻¹⁶⁻²⁴⁾
 - † *Mattie*, Brain tumor ⁽¹⁰⁻¹⁶⁻²⁴⁾
 - † *Bruce Gregory's family*, as they mourn his sister Virginia Bell ⁽⁹⁻²⁴⁻²⁴⁾
 - † *Rita Snyder & family*, as they mourn her son Peter's passing. ⁽⁹⁻¹⁰⁻²⁴⁾
 - † *Kim Simpson*, as she continues to fight cancer after many rounds of chemo and has begun a new round. ⁽⁸⁻²⁸⁻²⁴⁾
 - † *Jeff Glore, cancer & diabetes*⁽⁷⁻⁹⁻²⁴⁾
 - † *Ukraine, Israel, Palestine*
 - † *Everyone affected by the tornadoes, floods, fires, hurricanes and earthquakes***
- ** -If you have added anyone to our prayer list, please let us know when they can be removed.***

PRÄISE

1-5~

- † Christmas Eve
- † Family and church family gathered
- † Joy in Jesus

1-12~

1-19~

- † The beauty of Epiphany, when Christ is manifest
- † The beauty of the winter season
- † Our wonderful congregation

1-26~

- † Our Guest Pastor *Dr. Nancy Weatherwax*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COLDWATER
STATED MEETING OF SESSION THURSDAY DECEMBER 19, 2024

Present: Jan Breckinridge, Chris Doll, Bruce Gregory, Paul Hershberger, Pete Metters, Carol Ludlow, Lisa Renshaw and Linda Stewart.

Clerk of Session: Pete Metters

Pastor Susan opened the Meeting at 6:05 p.m. with a prayer.

The Agenda was approved on a motion by Linda Stewart, supported by Pete Metters.

DEACON'S REPORT: No report. -

CLERK'S REPORT: The Minutes of the November 21, 2024 Session Meeting were approved with changes on a motion by Paul Hershberger, supported by Chris Doll. Paul made a motion, supported by Chris Doll, to accept the Clerk's Report. The motion passed

PASTOR'S REPORT: Susan reported on the use of her time. It has been a busy two weeks: Sunday School-2; Book Club -2; Visits -9; Counseling-1, Meetings-2; Christmas Tea; Bell rehearsal -2; Ministerial Association lunch-1; Put Nativities out-2; bulletins-5; Sermons-4, Newsletter Articles-2.

Session discussed Susan's suggestion for more advertising of our Sunday services and other activities.

Jan Breckinridge made a motion, supported by Chris Doll, to accept the Pastor's Report. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:
November 30, 2024

SOUTHERN MICHIGAN BANK \$25,331.02
MINUS DESIGNATED FUNDS (\$11,935.38)
EQUALS GENERAL FUND BALANCE \$13,395.64
AMORTIZED ANNUAL GIFT BALANCE (\$1,750.00)

CURRENT AMOUNT \$15,975.25

MEMORIAL INTEREST EARNED \$18.24
VANTAGE POINTE MONEY MARKET \$.98
VANTAGE POINTE MUTUAL FUND \$8,077.28)
BRINKER CAPITAL \$6,391.48)

TOTAL INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS (INCOME/(LOSS) \$14,487.98

The Treasurer's Report was gratefully received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building & Grounds. Bruce Gregory reported that we're having trouble with boilers again. They're only six years old. The igniters have burned out ever year. Bruce will ask the manufacturer for a technician to troubleshoot. Session discussed Bruce's battery changing protocols for the wireless doorbell system and

thermostats. Jan Breckinridge suggested putting the protocols in the Church Policy book.

Finance. Paul Hershberger requested that Session authorize the sale of \$30,000 of investments to fund operations. Pete Metters made a motion, supported by Jan Breckinridge, to approve the request. The motion passed.

Christian Education. Sunday school is going well.

Personnel. Susan was excused from the meeting so Session could discuss and decide on Christmas bonuses for the staff. Following discussion, Chris Doll made a motion, supported by Linda Stewart, to approve the following bonuses: Susan \$500, Jessica \$250 and Chrisanne \$150. The motion passed. Susan returned to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Jan Breckinridge reported the Red Cross is willing to do a blood drive at the Church, but is booked through 1/25/25.

Paul Hershberger discussed the Presbytery Meeting on 12/3/24. Since 2020 the membership of the Presbytery has declined by 1,606, from 10,283 to 8,677.

We need a gluten-free option for communion. Paul Hershberger has a gluten-free loaf for Christmas Eve service.

OLD BUSINESS

Boundaries Training. The Boundaries Training on 12/11/24 went well. All Session members have taken Boundaries Training in 2024.

CLOSING PRAYER/ADJOURNMENT: Chris Doll made a motion, supported by , supported by Jan Breckinridge, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. Pastor Susan closed the meeting at 7:06 p.m. with a prayer.

F.P.C. PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian February Newsletter

As we are beginning February month, the weather has been keeping us snuggled up and trying to stay warm. Those poor people in the south have had quite a blast of winter!

Here at the Presbyterian Church, we have been busy with settling in our routines after a wonderful Christmas season. Both Circles have continued to do our Bible Study during our monthly meetings. Please remember that we welcome anyone who wishes to join us at any time. Deborah circle meets the Second Monday of the month at 10:00am. Sarah circle meets the Second Tuesday of the month at 3:00pm.

Stay safe and warm as we continue to slide into February. Pray for a softer and gentile winter yet to come!

Jan Corey, Chris Doll, Carol Ludlow,
Beth Montgomery, Sue Parrlberg, and Linda Stewart

~F.P.C. OUTREACH REPORT~

DIAPER PANTRY WORK SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

2-6~ Lois & Dean
2-13~ Mary & Jan C.
2-20~Beth & Bob
2-27~ Jan B. & Chris

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. In 2025, we have handed out **111** packages!!! Included in that is 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

31 pounds of food were collected this year for the Food Pantry!! Thank you so much for your donations!

-Food Pantry Items needed for February are: Any and All cereals

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 your 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 37,810 (2002-2023) 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!



Birthdays

2/2 Halie Zartman

2/3 Dennis Farwell

2/5 Mike Renshaw

LECTIONARY FOR THE LORD'S DAY:

2-2~*Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6;
1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30*

2-9~*Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13); Psalm 138;
1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11*

2-16~*Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1;
1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26*

2-23~*Genesis 45:3-11, 15;
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; 1 Corinthians 15:35-
38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38*

~RECIPES~



Orange Tilapia in Parchment

Sweet orange juice and spicy cayenne pepper give this no-fuss dish fabulous flavor. A bonus? Cleanup is a breeze!
—Tiffany Diebold, Nashville, TN

Takes: 30 min. • Makes: 4 servings

- ¼ cup orange juice
- 4 tsp. grated orange zest
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. cayenne pepper

- ¼ tsp. pepper
- 4 tilapia fillets (6 oz. each)
- ½ cup julienned carrot
- ½ cup julienned zucchini

1. Preheat oven to 450°. In a small bowl, combine first 5 ingredients; set aside. Cut parchment or heavy-duty foil into four 18x12-in. pieces; place a fish fillet on each. Top with carrot and zucchini; drizzle with orange juice mixture.
2. Fold parchment over fish. Working from bottom inside corner, fold up

paper about ¾ in. and crimp both layers to seal. Repeat, folding edges up and crimping, until a half-moon-shaped packet is formed. Repeat for remaining packets. Place on baking sheets.

3. Bake until fish flakes easily with a fork, 12-15 minutes. Open packets carefully to allow steam to escape.

1 PACKET 158 cal., 2g fat (1g sat. fat), 83mg chol., 220mg sod., 4g carb. (2g sugars, 1g fiber), 32g pro. DIABETIC EXCHANGES 5 lean meat.



Cod with Sweet Peppers

This quick and delicious dish is a family favorite. I like to use three or four different colors of peppers.

—Judy Grebetz, Racine, WI

Takes: 25 min. • Makes: 4 servings

- 1 medium onion, halved and sliced
- 1 cup reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 1 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1½ tsp. dried oregano
- ½ tsp. grated lemon zest
- ¼ tsp. salt
- 4 cod fillets (6 oz. each)
- ¾ cup julienned green pepper
- ¾ cup julienned sweet red pepper
- 2½ tsp. cornstarch
- 1 Tbsp. cold water
- 1 medium lemon, halved and sliced

1. In a large nonstick skillet, combine the first 7 ingredients. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer until onion is tender, 6-8 minutes.
2. Arrange fish and peppers over onion mixture. Cover and simmer until fish flakes easily with a fork and peppers are tender, 6-9 minutes. Remove fish and vegetables; keep warm.
3. Combine cornstarch and water until smooth; gradually stir into pan juices. Bring to a boil; cook and stir until thickened, about 2 minutes. Spoon over fish and vegetables. Serve with lemon.

1 FILLET WITH ¼ CUP PEPPER MIXTURE 168 cal., 1g fat (0 sat. fat), 65mg chol., 398mg sod., 10g carb. (4g sugars, 2g fiber), 29g pro. DIABETIC EXCHANGES 4 lean meat, 1 vegetable.



Mushroom-Herb Stuffed French Toast

This recipe transforms French toast into a savory delight with mushrooms and cheese. Its ooey-gooney texture is irresistible!

—Lisa Huff, Wilton, CT

Prep: 25 min. • Cook: 5 min./batch
Makes: 8 servings

- 1 lb. thinly sliced baby portobello mushrooms
- 4 Tbsp. butter plus 2 Tbsp. melted butter, divided
- 1 pkg. (8 oz.) reduced-fat cream cheese

- 2 cups shredded Gruyere or Swiss cheese, divided
- 4 Tbsp. minced chives, divided
- 1 Tbsp. minced fresh tarragon or 1 tsp. dried tarragon
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- ¾ tsp. salt
- ¾ tsp. pepper
- 16 slices Texas toast
- 4 large eggs
- 2 cups 2% milk

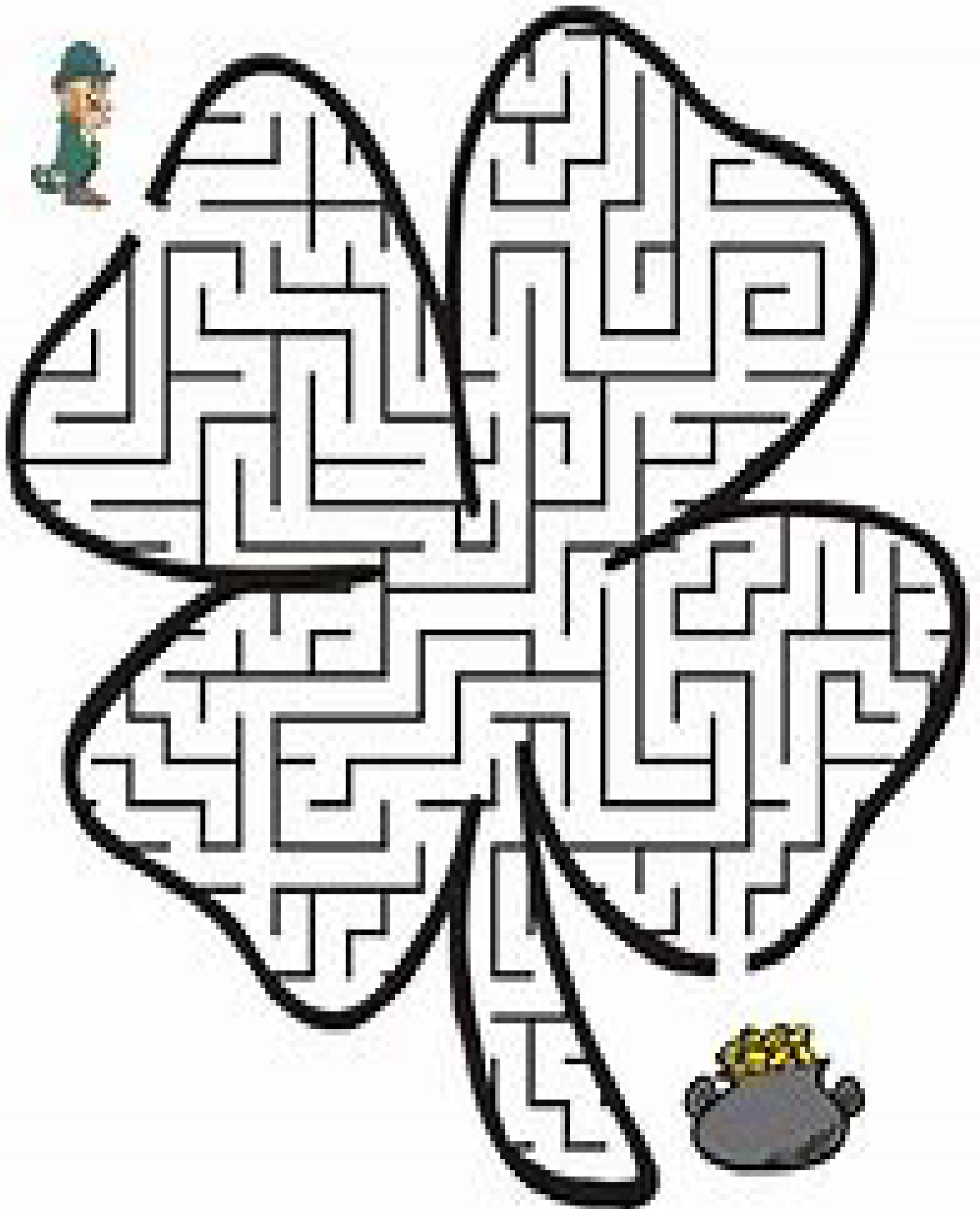
1. In a large skillet, saute mushrooms in 1 Tbsp. butter until tender; set aside.
2. In a small bowl, beat cream cheese, 1 cup Gruyere cheese, 2 Tbsp. chives, tarragon, garlic, salt and pepper until

blended. Spread over bread slices. Spoon mushrooms over half the slices; place remaining bread slices over top, spread side down.

3. In a shallow bowl, whisk eggs, milk and 2 Tbsp. melted butter. Dip both sides of sandwiches into egg mixture.

4. In a large skillet, toast sandwiches in remaining 3 Tbsp. butter in batches until golden brown, 2-3 minutes on each side. Sprinkle with remaining cheese and chives.

1 SANDWICH 531 cal., 30g fat (17g sat. fat), 185mg chol., 757mg sod., 41g carb. (8g sugars, 2g fiber), 24g pro.



February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i>
<i>2</i> -Called Meeting -Communion -Deacon Meeting	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> 10:30-12pm Book Group	<i>6</i> 1st Thursday Prayer 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> 10am Deborah Circle	<i>11</i> 3pm Sarah Circle	<i>12</i> 10:30-12pm Book Group	<i>13</i> 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> 10:30-12pm Book Group	<i>20</i> 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic -6pm Session	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> 10am P.W. Meeting	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> 10:30-12pm Book Group	<i>27</i> 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic	<i>28</i>	

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
52 MARSHALL STREET
COLDWATER, MI 49036

February 2024 NEWSLETTER



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*
Accompanist, *Chrisann Lowe*
ADM. ASSIST. *Jessica Schneider*

First Presbyterian Church 52 Marshall Street, Coldwater, MI 49036

Phone: 517-278-6068

Church & Administrative Assistant E-mail Address: ColdwaterFPC@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.firstprescoldwater.org>

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