



April  
Showers  
Bring May  
flowers

**Experience Sunday With Us!**

9:30 am ~ Adult Sunday School  
11:00 am ~ Worship Service  
12:00 pm ~ Coffee & Fellowship  
Our building is fully accessible for all.

**Meet our Church Staff**

Pastor,  
Adult Bell Choir Director, Rita Snyder  
Accompanist, Chrisann Lowe  
Adm. Assist. Sharon Richardson

**First Presbyterian Church 52 Marshall Street, Coldwater, MI 49036**

**Phone: 517-278-6068**

**Church & Administrative Assistant E-mail Address: [ColdwaterFPC@gmail.com](mailto:ColdwaterFPC@gmail.com)**

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

**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



**APRIL LITURGISTS**

4-5~ Linda S  
4-12 ~ Bob S  
4-19~ Pete M  
4-26 ~ Lorie H

**APRIL COUNTERS**

Bob S.  
Beth M.  
Jan B.

**MAY LITURGISTS**

5-3 ~ ?  
5-10 ~ Pete M  
5-17 ~ Lorie H  
5-24 ~ Beth M  
5-31 ~ ?

**MAY COUNTERS**

Julie W  
Tarina M  
Velma C

**DEACONS IN CHARGE SCHEDULE**

**2026**

April - Chris & All Deacons  
May - Bob M

Thank you to all who give their time  
and hearts in service to our church.

*thank you* 



April is coming fast. As we continue toward summer, both circles are finishing our Bible studies.

We are going to Holt for our Spring Get-Together on Saturday, April 18.

Deborah Circle and Sarah Circle continue their Bible study through June.

We continue to collect paper products for the Shelter House.

Know that we welcome all who wish to join our circles. It is always a time of thoughtful study, learning, and friendship!

\*Deborah Circle meets the second Monday of the month at 10:00 am.

\*Sarah Circle meets the second Tuesday of the month at 3:00 pm.

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

~DEACON & SESSION INFORMATION~

**APRIL DEACON IN CHARGE**

Chris Doll

**MAY DEACON IN CHARGE**

Stacey Hullinger

**Communion Date**

April 19th

~Deacon Board Members~

Bob Montgomery	517-278-5028
Hope Woods	269-275-9277
Stacey Hullinger	517-677-0074
Chris Doll	517-278-5259
Jackie Werkman	734-358-3250
Mary Daniels	517-278-7023

**MEETINGS:**

~Next Deacon Meeting April 19th following the worship service, during Communion clean up.

~Next Session Meeting April 23 at 6:00 pm

~Session Board Members~

Moderator:

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

Bruce Gregory 517-278-6502

Peter Metters 313-244-1570

Carol Ludlow 517-279-9407

Beth Montgomery 517-278-5028



**Love. Grow. Serve.**

~F.P.C. OUTREACH REPORT~

Diaper Pantry Work Schedule for April

- \*4-2 ~ Chris & Jan C
- \*4-9 ~ Bob & Linda Stewart
- \*4-16 ~ Beth & Rita
- \*4-23 ~ Sue P & Mary
- \*4-30 ~ Beth & Bob

**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!

*Thank you*

~The Diaper Pantry continues to serve our community in need. In Feb & March, we have handed out **167** 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**

**212** pounds of food have been collected this year for the Food Pantry!! Thank you so much for your donations!

-Food Pantry Items needed for **April:**  
Any and all cereal.



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 38,419 (2002-2024) 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.

# January Session Minutes

STATED MEETING OF SESSION THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026

Present: Jan Breckinridge, Beth Montgomery, Bruce Gregory, Paul Hershberger, Carol Ludlow, Pete Metters and Linda Stewart.

Guest: Ruby Merkle

Clerk of Session: Pete Metters

Pastor Susan opened the Meeting at 5:59 p.m. with a prayer.

The Agenda was approved on a motion by Linda Stewart, supported by Carol Ludlow.

DEACON'S REPORT: Hope Woods gave the report. Having all Deacons in charge in December worked well. Hope is the Deacon for Cheryl Kiddle, who is having health problems.

CLERK'S REPORT: The Minutes of the December 11, 2025 Session Meeting were approved on a motion by Linda Stewart, supported by Beth Montgomery.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Susan reported on the use of her time. She announced her resignation as our Pastor. She will accept a Call from a church closer to her home as of March 1, 2026. She will tell the Congregation after worship on Sunday, January 18, 2026. Her last Sunday to preach in the pulpit will be February 15. Her last service of worship will be on Ash Wednesday, February 18. She has appraised the Presbytery of Lake of her decision and obtained a liaison as the Church transitions.

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

The Welcome Center is open. Nancy from St. Marks Church has volunteered and wants to again. Diane from St. Marks heads a women's group. She told Susan her group would also like to volunteer. Ruby Merkle should have been submitted to the Congregation and suggested we need a training program for volunteers. Hope Woods suggested we read The Librarian's Guide to Homelessness.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

	12/31/2025	YTD
Memorial Interest Earned	\$ 164.38	\$ 1,057.56
Vantage Pointe Money Market	\$ 0.28	\$ 17.60
Vantage Pointe Mutual Fund	\$ 1,733.24	\$ 69,106.50
Brinker Capital	\$ 1,002.97	\$ 25,765.40
Total Investment Accounts (Income/(Loss))	\$ 2,900.87	\$ 95,947.06
Checking Balance SMBT	\$ 7,966.87	
Minus Designated Funds	\$ (8,957.58)	
Equals General Fund Balance	\$ (990.71)	
Amortized Annual Gift Balance	\$ -	
Current Amount	\$ (990.71)	

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building & Grounds. Bruce Gregory reported the boilers are working well. Thompson Construction is doing a good job with snow removal. They come between 6:00 a.m. and 6:30 a.m.

Christian Education. Evan Earl said he would like to join the Church and be Baptized. \_\_\_ made a motion, supported by \_\_\_, to approve Earl becoming a Member. The motion passed

Fellowship. Beth Montgomery said the Fellowship Committee will host a soup luncheon later this month.

## NEW BUSINESS

Session discussed the Steeple Restoration Project.

CLOSING PRAYER/ADJOURNMENT: Beth Montgomery made a motion, supported by Jan Breckinridge, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. Pastor Susan closed the meeting at 7:30 p.m. with a prayer.

# February Session Minutes

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COLDWATER STATED MEETING OF SESSION THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

Present: Jan Breckinridge, Bruce Gregory, Paul Hershberger, Carol Ludlow, Pete Metters, Beth Montgomery and Linda Stewart.

Guests: Hope Woods, and Mike Ryan and Rev. Steve Kazar from the Presbytery.

Clerk of Session: Pete Metters

Pastor Susan opened the Meeting at 5:59 p.m. with a prayer.

Mike Ryan and Rev. Kazar conducted Susan's exit interview. They discussed the transition process. A liaison pastor will be appointed, followed by an interim pastor. Session members expressed concern about the need to find guest pastors for every Sunday and finding a pastor to moderate Session meetings.

The Agenda was approved on a motion by Beth Montgomery, supported by Linda Stewart

DEACON'S REPORT: Hope Woods gave the report. Cheryl Kiddle is currently the Deacons' only shut in.

CLERK'S REPORT: The Minutes of the January 15, 2026 Session Meeting were approved with changes on a motion by Beth Montgomery, supported by Jan Breckinridge.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Susan reported on the use of her time. She will finish packing over the next week. She will be on the Church payroll through March 7, 2026 as that would be her Wyoming time away. Susan thanked Session members for their support during her 5½ years of Ministry.

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

### TREASURER'S REPORT

	1/31/2026	YTD
<b>Memorial Interest Earned</b>	\$ 170.36	\$ 170.36
<b>Vantage Pointe Money Market</b>	\$ 7.08	\$ 7.08
<b>Vantage Pointe Mutual Fund</b>	\$ 12,038.11	\$ 12,038.11
<b>Brinker Capital</b>	\$ 4,207.21	\$ 4,207.21
<b>Total Investment Accounts (Income)/(Loss)</b>	\$ 16,422.76	\$ 16,422.76
<b>Checking Balance SMBT</b>	\$ (1,451.84)	
<b>Minus Designated Funds</b>	\$ (9,206.14)	
<b>Equals General Fund Balance</b>	\$ (10,657.98)	
<b>Amortized Annual Gift Balance</b>	\$ -	
<b>Current Amount</b>	\$ (10,657.98)	

The Treasurer's Report was gratefully received.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building & Grounds. Bruce Gregory reported one of the boilers has a leak that will cost about \$1,500 to repair. The January gas bill could have been \$5,000, but by spreading payments over the year, the cost was about \$1,900. The January bill for snow removal was \$2,937. We're very pleased with Thompson Construction's snow removal and ice melt service.

Session discussed the Steeple Restoration Project. Jessica Flores will do a site visit to assess the Steeple on February 26, 2026.

Worship Committee. The Ash Wednesday Service was well attended and worked well.

## OLD BUSINESS

Home Woods gave an update on the Welcome Center, which is currently authorized through February 2026. Pete Metters made a motion, supported by Linda Stewart, to continue the Welcome Center through March 2026. The motion passed.

## NEW BUSINESS

Statistical Report. Paul Hershberger made a motion, supported by Linda Stewart, to approve the 2025 Church Statistical Report that Pete Metters filed with the Presbytery on February 12, 2026. The motion passed.

CLOSING PRAYER/ADJOURNMENT: Carol Ludlow made a motion, supported by Beth Montgomery, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. Pastor Susan closed the meeting at 7:43 p.m. with a prayer.



4/27 - Lois Williams

### **+** April Guest Pastors

- April 5, 2026 — Rev. Nancy Weatherwax
- April 12, 2026 — Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom
- April 19, 2026 — Rev. Viktoria Berlik
  - Rev. Berlik will also serve Communion.
- April 26, 2026 — Rev. Nancy Weatherwax



### **What is Life**

Life is a cycle of good or bad  
Happiness or sadness  
If you're having a bad moment  
Don't worry  
Happiness is on the way.

# Ham and Potato Casserole

Looking for a satisfying dish to use up leftover holiday ham? Try this Ham and Potato Casserole with creamy sauce and melted cheese!



Prep Time

15 mins

Cook Time

40 mins

Total Time

55 mins

Course: Main Course Cuisine: American

Keyword: Ham and Potato Casserole, ham casserole Servings: 9 people

Author: Amanda Rettke-iamhomesteader.com



4.70 from 10 votes

## Ingredients

- 1 ½ pounds Yukon gold potatoes, peeled, cut into ½-inch cubes
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 medium yellow onion, diced
- 1 teaspoon garlic, minced
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 cups (490 g) whole milk, room temperature
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 teaspoon mustard powder
- ½ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- ½ cup (115 g) sour cream
- 2 cups (270 g) cooked ham, cut into ½-inch cubes
- 1 cup (113 g) sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
- ½ cup (56.5 g) Monterey Jack cheese, shredded
- chives, for garnish (optional)
- salt, to taste

## Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Add diced potatoes to a large pot and cover with water. Bring to a boil over high heat, then reduce the heat to medium-high and continue boiling until the potatoes are softened, about 5-8 minutes.
3. In a large oven-safe skillet over medium heat, melt the butter. Add the diced onion and cook, stirring frequently, until softened, about 5 minutes.
4. Add the garlic and cook for 1 more minute. Sprinkle the flour over the onion and garlic, and whisk to form a paste. Cook for 1 more minute.
5. Gradually whisk in the milk. Add the salt, pepper, mustard powder, and cayenne, continuing to whisk. Bring the mixture to a simmer. Then, reduce heat to low and continue cooking, stirring frequently, until thickened, about 5 minutes.
6. Stir in the sour cream.
7. Gently fold in the ham and potatoes, stirring until evenly coated.
8. Sprinkle the cheddar and Monterey Jack cheese evenly over the top.
9. Bake for 20- 25 minutes, or until the potatoes are fork-tender and the cheese is melted.
10. Increase the heat to broil and cook for 30-60 seconds to lightly brown the cheese. Keep a close eye on it, as it can brown quickly!
11. Allow the dish to rest for a few minutes before garnishing with chives and serving. Add salt to taste.



# APRIL

## Word Search

H N S S B Q S P R I N G O M T  
S P A H I A P R I L F O O L S  
J D P E R R I R P K A V Y D V  
C Y R E D R R N R W U H D B V  
Z V I P E U G K U U C P N J S  
G X L H Z V L U W L X G Z U U  
M B B F L O W E R S H W K N N  
B H B U T T E R F L I E S K N  
U D C D U V J Y B Y V Y T R Y  
N N Q U C X K Y Y L V R E A D  
N M K D E A S T E R H O W I B  
Y O F M B L C V Z X Q R V N R  
O Y I A E R J F V H N O E Y S  
F N S R D T M H C Y A S P X M  
M S F T B U K E A R T H D A Y

Birds  
Bunnies  
Sunny  
Tricks  
Sheep  
Easter  
Earth Day  
Butterflies  
April Fools  
Spring  
Rain  
Flowers



# APRIL 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Goals
5  Easter Sunday	6 	7	8 10:30 - noon Book Group	9 4 pm - 6 pm Clinic & Diaper Pantry	10 10:30 - noon Book Group	11	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
12	13 10 am - Deborah Circle	14 3 pm - Sarah Circle	15 10:30 - noon Book Group	16 4 pm - 6 pm Clinic & Diaper Pantry	17	18 PW Spring Get Together - Holt, MI	Notes  Liturgists for April <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April 5: Linda Stewart</li> <li>• April 12: Bob Stewart</li> <li>• April 19: Pete Metters</li> <li>• April 26: Lorie Hershberger</li> </ul> April Guest Pastors April 5 — Rev. Nancy Weatherwax April 12 — Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom April 19 — Rev. Viktoria Berlik April 26 — Rev. Nancy Weatherwax
19  Holy Communion	20	21	22 10:30 - noon Book Group 	23 4 pm - 6 pm Clinic & Diaper Pantry 6 pm - Session	24	25	
26 2 cents a meal offering	27 10 am PW Monthly Meeting	28	29 10:30 - noon Book Group	30			