



EXPERIENCE SUNDAY *With Us*

9:30 AM

Adult Sunday School

11:00 AM

Worship Service

12:00 PM

Coffee & Fellowship

All are welcome.

As summer begins to turn toward fall, we give thanks for the many blessings of this season.

We invite you to join us as we gather together in worship, grow in faith, and extend God's love in our community.

There is a place for you here—come as you are.

First Presbyterian Church
52 Marshall Street, Coldwater, MI 49036
Phone: 517-278-6068
Email: coldwaterfpc@gmail.com





August Church Highlights



Important Dates, Volunteers & Celebrations

Deacons in Charge

- **August Deacon in Charge** – Chris Doll
- **September Deacon in Charge** – Evin Earl

Counters

- **August Counters** – Julie Lewis, Tarina Macklem & Velma Cole
- **September Counters** – Dennis Farwell, Pete Metters, Carol Ludlow

Communion

- **Communion Date** – August 16th
- **Rev. Viktoria Berlik**



Meetings

- **Session** – August 20 at 6:00 pm



August Liturgists

- 8/2 – Pete Metters
- 8/9 – Tarina Macklem
- 8/16 – Beth Montgomery
- 8/23 – Lorie Hershberger
- 8/30 – Pete Metters

August Birthdays



- | | |
|--------------------|------|
| • Mary Farwell | 8/3 |
| • Linda Stewart | 8/6 |
| • Stacey Hullinger | 8/14 |
| • Bruce Gregory | 8/25 |
| • Becky Troust | 8/28 |

August Anniversaries

- | | |
|-------------------------|------|
| • Bob & Beth Montgomery | 8/14 |
| • Bob & Linda Stewart | 8/17 |



We give thanks for all who serve and celebrate with our church family.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COLDWATER
STATED MEETING OF SESSION THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2026**

Present: Jan Breckinridge, Bruce Gregory, Carol Ludlow and Beth Montgomery.

Guest: Julie Lewis

Moderator: Rev. Steve Kaszar.

Clerk of Session: Pete Metters

Rev. Kaszar opened the Meeting at 6:03 p.m. with a prayer.

The Agenda was approved on a motion by Beth Montgomery, supported by Carol Ludlow.

DEACON'S REPORT: No report.

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

CLERK'S REPORT: The Minutes of the May 21, 2026 Session Meeting were approved on a motion by Bruce Gregory, supported by Beth Montgomery.

TREASURER'S REPORT

	5/31/2026	YTD
Memorial Interest Earned	\$ 167.02	\$ 835.22
Vantage Pointe Money Market	\$ 0.03	\$ 12.24
Vantage Pointe Mutual Fund	\$ 4,892.04	\$ 26,008.39
Brinker Capital	\$ 5,539.94	\$ 14,868.82
Total Investment Accounts Income/(Loss)	\$ 10,599.03	\$ 41,724.67
Checking Balance SMBT	\$ 33,934.39	
Minus Designated Funds	\$ (8,013.54)	
Equals General Fund Balance	\$ 25,920.85	
Amortized Annual Gift Balance	\$ (12,833.00)	
Current Amount	\$ 13,087.85	

The Treasurer's Report was gratefully received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Stewardship. The Church's Certificates of Deposit are coming due. Paul Hershberger recommends redeeming them rather than rolling them over, and buying new CDs. Bruce made a motion, supported by Carol Ludlow, to authorize Paul to redeem the current CDs and to purchase new CDs. The motion passed.

Building & Grounds. Bruce Gregory reported that when Pastor Susan moved, she mistakenly took a desk lamp that wasn't hers. She offered to pay for the lamp. Bob Montgomery talked to the owner of the home next to the Church on the north side, who wants to put up a fence that connects to and extends the Church's fence. Sessions thought that is a good idea.

Strawberry Festival on June 20, 2026.

NEW BUSINESS

Session and Rev. Kaszar discussed next steps in the transition process to find a new Pastor, and the process for drafting a Ministry Information Form (MIF) and doing a Mission study. Questions to consider for the MIF include:

- What is our worship like?
- How is it done? Traditional/Contemporary? Do we want to change
- How often do we celebrate Communion?
- Do we use a Liturgist? Are we willing to change the Liturgy?

For the Mission Study:

Emphasize the Health Clinic and Diaper Pantry.

How much do we want our Pastor to be involved in Mission work?

Who should be the public face of the Church? The Pastor? Session?

The Mission Study must be approved by COM before we form a Pastor Nominating Committee.

Session approved donating the toys in the Diaper Pantry to charity.

Bob Montgomery offered to train our new Deacon, Evin Earl.

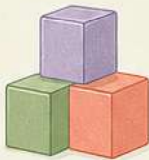
The next Session Meeting will be on Tuesday, June 16, 2026.

CLOSING PRAYER/ADJOURNMENT: Jan Breckinridge made a motion, supported by Beth Montgomery, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. Rev. Kaszar closed the meeting at 7:40 p.m. with a prayer.



DIAPER PANTRY

Volunteer Update



THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!



We are so thankful for the volunteers who generously give their time on Thursdays to serve others through the Diaper Pantry.

**OPEN
THURSDAYS**

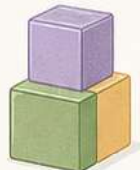
4:00–6:00 PM

Serving families in our community each week



WE WELCOME MORE VOLUNTEERS!

Would you like to lend a hand? New volunteers are always welcome. Whether you can help regularly or occasionally, your time can make a meaningful difference for families in our community.



INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

Please see Beth Montgomery, Bob Stewart, or Linda Stewart.

With gratitude,
Beth Montgomery, Bob & Linda Stewart
Outreach Committee

Landscaping Around the Columbarium

Care for Our Church Grounds

Each year, our church grounds receive annual shrubbery maintenance to help keep the columbarium area neat, healthy, and welcoming. This year, the columbarium also received some fresh new mulch, giving the space a clean and cared-for appearance.

For the last 6 or 7 years, Chris Haight has been helping keep our shrubs and bushes looking nice. We are grateful for his continued time, effort, and attention to the landscaping around the church.



Thank You, Chris!

Your dedication helps keep our church grounds beautiful and welcoming for all.



Columbarium grounds after maintenance.



Chris Haight trimming shrubs.



Columbarium area with freshly maintained shrubbery.



*Well-tended grounds reflect the care and love of our church family.
Thank you to everyone who helps keep our campus beautiful and welcoming.*





Save the People's Steeple

A Committee Update for Our Church Family

The Save the People's Steeple Committee was formed in April and includes both members of our church and friends from the community. Together, the committee is working to share the story of our steeple and seek support for its restoration.

MEET THE COMMITTEE

Bob Stewart — *Chairperson*

Paul Hershberger —
Church Treasurer & Committee Treasurer

Jack Ferguson

Lisa Renshaw

Becky Troust

Sarah Zimmer

Erin Veysey

Linda Stewart — *Secretary*

More than \$14,000 has been received!

We are grateful for every contribution, including three especially generous gifts from private individuals.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING

Our first public appearance was at the Strawberry Festival in June. It was a wonderful opportunity to introduce the campaign and begin sharing why the steeple matters to our church and to the wider Coldwater community.

The committee is now contacting local service clubs about giving presentations and is also exploring possible grant opportunities.

COMING SOON

An appeal letter will soon be sent to church members and attendees, as well as former members. We hope the letter will help more people learn about the restoration effort and the many ways they can be part of it.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Every donation—large or small—helps move this important project forward. Thank you for caring about our church and helping preserve the People's Steeple for generations to come.

Bob Stewart

Chairperson, Save the People's Steeple Committee

Celebrating Two Special 90th Birthdays

Twice the Blessing — 180 Years of Grace, Faith, and Friendship

Sally Whitten

Sally's 90th birthday was celebrated with a joyful gathering of friends and church family.

Those pictured are Linda Stewart, Ruby Harpst, Sally Whitten, Dorothy Burrows, Sue Paarlberg, and Judy Schade.

Also attending, but not pictured, were Jim & Becky Troust and Cindy Fickle.

Sally's nephew, a professional comedian, also treated everyone to a wonderful comedy show.



*Happy
90th
Birthday,
Sally & Ruby!*

Ruby Merkle

Ruby's 90th birthday was also a special celebration for our church family.

She enjoyed a lovely gathering with cake, decorations, and warm wishes from friends at First Pres.

We give thanks for Ruby and the joy she brings to our church family.





Presbyterian WOMEN'S CIRCLES

Growing in Faith • Building Friendship • Serving Together



Our church has two active women's circles who meet from September through June during the year.

Sarah Circle

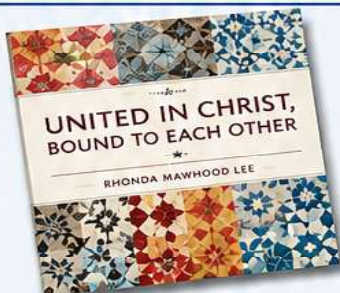
meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 3:00 pm.
This year's first meeting is **Tuesday, September 8th.**



They will be using the PW study guide,
Finding Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ
by Rashell Hunter.

Deborah Circle

meets on the second Monday of the month at 10:00 am.
beginning on **September 14th.**



The PW study guide they're using
this year is
United in Christ, Bound to Each Other
by Rhonda Mawhood Lee.

If you are interested in joining one of the circles,
please let Beth Montgomery or Linda Stewart know.

All are welcome!



Thanks so much! You are a blessing to us all at First Pres!
Linda



PERFECT FOR YOUR *August* Cookout



Easy recipes everyone will love!



1. GRILLED PEACH CHICKEN SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- Salt & pepper to taste
- 2 ripe peaches, sliced
- 6 cups mixed greens
- 1/4 cup red onion, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1/4 cup chopped pecans
- Balsamic vinaigrette

DIRECTIONS

1. Brush chicken with olive oil; season with salt and pepper.
2. Grill chicken over medium-high heat 6–7 minutes per side or until cooked through. Let rest, then slice.
3. Grill peach slices 2–3 minutes per side until grill marks appear.
4. In a large bowl, toss greens, onion, feta and pecans.
5. Top with chicken and peaches. Drizzle with balsamic vinaigrette and serve.



2. SUMMER PASTA SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- 12 oz rotini pasta
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 cucumber, diced
- 1/2 red onion, diced
- 1/2 cup black olives, sliced
- 1/2 cup feta cheese, crumbled
- 1/4 cup fresh basil, chopped
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 3 tbsp red wine vinegar
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- Salt & pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

1. Cook pasta according to package directions. Drain and rinse with cold water; set aside.
2. In a large bowl, combine pasta, tomatoes, cucumber, red onion, olives, feta, and basil.
3. In a small bowl, whisk together olive oil, vinegar, oregano, salt and pepper.
4. Pour dressing over pasta salad and toss to coat. Chill and enjoy!



3. WATERMELON FETA SKEWERS

INGREDIENTS

- 4 cups watermelon, cubed
- 8 oz feta cheese, cubed
- Fresh mint leaves
- Balsamic glaze
- Toothpicks
- Black pepper, to taste

DIRECTIONS

1. Thread a cube of watermelon, a cube of feta, and a mint leaf onto each toothpick.
2. Arrange on a platter.
3. Drizzle with balsamic glaze and sprinkle with black pepper.
4. Chill until ready to serve.



..... Great food • Good friends • God's blessings

Here's to safe and happy summers!

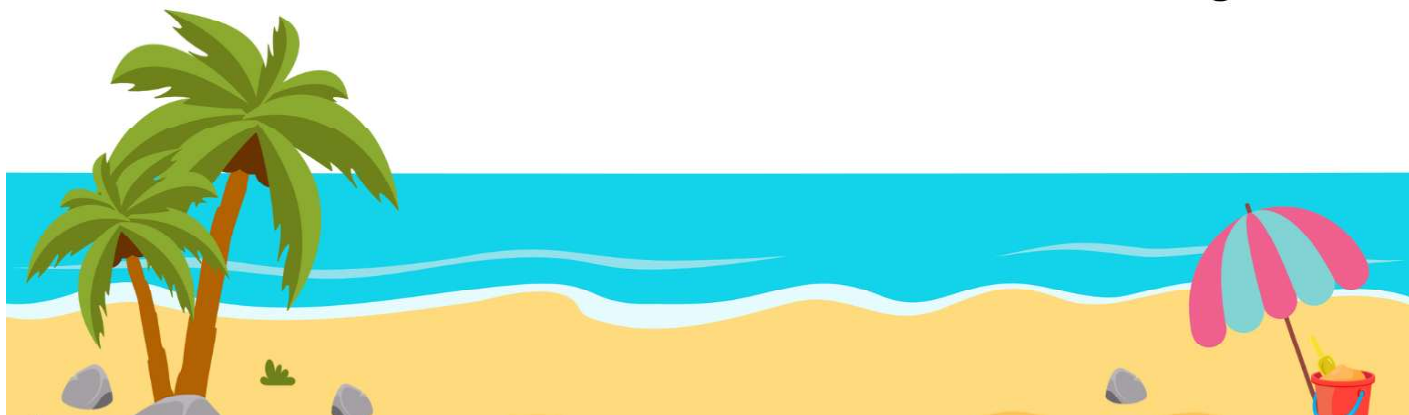


AUGUST

Word Search

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

August
Back to School
Corn on the Cob
State Fair
Summer
Sunflowers
Campfire
Sunshine
Ice Cream
Grilling
Hot
Beach
Watermelon
Bike Rides
Swimming





PW Annual Ice Cream Social

Sunday, Aug. 30

Join us for a *sweet*
time of fellowship,
laughter, and ice cream!



All are welcome.



LET'S TALK LEGAL FINANCIAL & CARE



Have You Visited your Estate
Plan Lately?
Does It Include Care?



Let Us Share Your Options
Regarding Legal, Financial,
& Care

Learn about Durable
Power of Attorney's and
Lady Bird Deeds

NUGEN LAW

Life Care Planning Presentation

- ✓ Donuts, & Coffee
- ✓ Sign Up with FREDA

Wed. Aug. 5th

10:00 am

Location

H & C Burnside Center
65 Grahl Dr.
Coldwater, MI



RSVP 260-908-6617



outreach@nugenlaw.com

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Notes

August Guest Pastors

- o August 2 – Dr. Weatherwax
- o August 9 – Dr. Weatherwax
- o August 16 – Communion Sunday
- Rev. Viktoria Berlik
- o August 23 – Dr. Weatherwax
- o August 30 – Rev. Gene Cobb

August Liturgists:

- 8/2 – Pete Meters
- 8/9 – Tarina Macklem
- 8/16 – Beth Montgomery
- 8/23 – Lorie Hershberger
- 8/30 – Pete Metters

August Deacon

Chris Doll

