

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 : ****

MARCH 2025 INCOME AND EXPENSES
PAYMENTS AND PAYROLL: \$18,111.89
INCOME AND DONATIONS: \$6624.18
 3-2~ \$1518
 3-9~ \$1462
 3-16~ \$1719.18
 3-23~ \$1925

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.

APRIL LITURGISTS
 4-6- Chris Doll
 2-13- Lorie Hershberger
 2-20- Pete Metters
 2-27- Tarina Macklem

APRIL COUNTERS
 Bob Stewart
 Tarina Macklem
 Beth Montgomery
 Jan Breckenridge

MAY LITURGISTS
 5-4~ Beth Montgomery
 5-11~ Tarina Macklem
 5-18~ Lorie Hershberger
 5-25~ Pete Metters

MAY COUNTERS
 Julie Lewis
 Tarina Macklem
 Linda Parr



Dear Church family,

April is a joyous season in the calendar year and in the church year! In the calendar year it pretty much defines Spring and in the church year nothing could be more important than Easter! Easter, when our Lord arose from the dead and is a living Savior for all of us!!

Spring reminds me every year with all the flowers popping up and the soft spring green leaves on the trees, the baby animals in the farmers fields and the singing of birds! It's a joyous time of year and we have the best news of all! Jesus is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Hallelujah! Rejoice for we have been freed from sin and death for all time! What wonderful news this is!

I pray this April finds you joyful, peaceful and content as you know that nothing in heaven or on earth can separate us from God's love, as according to Romans 8:38-39! Hallelujah indeed! He is Risen. Sing it from the rooftops!

Love to all,

Susan

SPIRITUAL MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SUSAN

Friends,

In visiting Monte this week I was privileged to attend 2 of his "Soup & Soul" soup luncheon after church on Lenten Sundays. He is using a DVD series called "7 Feasts of the Tabernacle". It is hosted by a Jewish Christian man who explains the 7 Feasts of the Jews and how they fulfill the plan for the Messiah to come.

I'd like to share just a couple of these thoughts as they make the scriptures come alive even more than before.

Let's begin with Passover-when the angel of death passed over the Jewish homes in Egypt before they were released from 400 years of captivity. In Passover the blood of a lamb was spread over the door frame of each Jewish house to indicate they were Gods' people, so the angel of death passed over.

The Passover Feast is a Feast of redemption!. Passover is the First month in the Hebrew calendar! Redemption to begin the year! Wonderful! In this feast there are 7 days of unleavened bread-why? Because leaven was thought to corrupt (as sin corrupts).

The next feast is Resheit = First Fruits. And you know what? Jesus arose on Resheit! Jesus is the First Fruits of the dead!! Again fulfilling that prophecy.

The next feast I want to share with you is Pentecost, 50 days after Easter, 50 days after Passover in Egypt. Pentecost was the season of the giving of the Law in the 10 Commandments and now is the giving of the Holy Spirit as Jesus is the fulfillment of the Law.

In the Wilderness before Moses came down from Mt. Sinai with the 10 Commandments the Hebrew people had made for themselves a graven image of a golden calf to worship. 3,000 Hebrews died!! On Pentecost in Jerusalem after Jesus arose (50 days later) 3,000 people were made alive and baptised with the Holy Spirit! God's fulfillments are amazing!

The giving of the Law formed the Hebrew people into a nation. The giving of the Holy Spirit in Pentecost formed us into God's people! The Jewish people were to count their birthdays from this day. . .for example, a young boy is asked his birthday and he says it is 50 days after Uncle Murry died. (Why did he have to count it this way? The example given was that Uncle Murry gave us everything. I.E. Jesus gave us everything so we can count our birthdays as Christians as 50 days after Jesus was raised because He gave us Everything! (That would be June 8 this year.)

2 last thoughts: Lev. 23:17 speaks of 2 loaves as an offering (this is the only place in Torah asking for 2 loaves, usually it's one loaf.) The reason is in a court of law then 2 witnesses were required to confirm a testimony. Remember when Jesus sent out His disciples He sent them out two by two!!! Acts 2:10 = 2 loaves-Jews and Gentiles. We are one people in the eyes of God. Our unity is unique in Messiah! Unusual offering at Pentecost-the 2 loaves are made with leaven, so WE are the first fruits of the Lord. Salvation is a "Come As You Are" party. All of us have fallen short of the glory of God, but Messiah brings us together so God can accept us just as we are, sinners, but the Body of Christ!!

Last, this Jewish Christian man related to us that we are set apart. His example is that sababatt (sabbath=Sunday worship) is like a wedding ring. I am set apart for Monte. Sabbath sets us apart for God! Isn't that the coolest thing?!

Ponder these things and enjoy the blessings and love of God, my friends. Love, Susan

~DEACON & SESSION INFORMATION~

APRIL DEACON IN CHARGE

Lorie Hershberger

Communion Dates

4-6, 4-17 & 4-30

~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

MEETINGS:

~Next Deacon Meeting April 6th following the worship service, during Communion clean up.

~Next Session Meeting April 17TH at 6:00 pm

~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

Peter Metters 313-244-1570

Carol Ludlow 517-279-9407



Love. Grow. Serve.



- † Rod Poskitt's family
 - † Virginia, Bob M.'s sister
 - † Karen Maxson
 - † Peace in USA & world
 - † Ruby Merkle, as she mourns the lose of her sister in law and brother. (11-4-24)
 - † Joy Reichenberg, Stage 4 liver & colon cancer(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)
 - † 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.****

PRAYSE

3-2~
†

3-9~
†Diaper Donations

3-16~
†

3-23~
†Our Guest Dr. Nancy Weatherwax

3-30~

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COLDWATER
STATED MEETING OF SESSION THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025

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 6:01 p.m. with a prayer.

The Agenda was approved on a motion by Pete Metters, supported by Bruce Gregory.

DEACON'S REPORT: Bob Montgomery said we're comfortable with the current process for Communion, with tearing the bread from a loaf. He said the Deacons are having difficulty finding enough Deacons for May. There will be a Deacon's meeting on March 1, 2025.

CLERK'S REPORT: The Minutes of the January 16, 2025 Session Meeting were approved on a motion by Paul Hershberger, supported by Lisa Renshaw. Jan Breckinridge 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. There will be an Ash Wednesday ecumenical service at the Methodist Church on March 5, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.

There was a Specially called Congregational Meeting on February 2, 2025 to consider Susan's proposed 2025 Terms of Call and a proposed amendment to the Church Bylaws reducing the number of members required for a quorum at congregational meetings from 20 to 12. Session discussed concerns expressed at the Meeting about Susan's part-time arrangement and that the Church is not growing, and reviewed the terms the Congregation approved when Susan was called in 2020. Jan Breckinridge made a motion, supported by Chris Doll, to accept the Pastor's Report. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

January 31, 2025

SOUTHERN MICHIGAN BANK	\$14,192.61
MINUS DESIGNATED FUNDS (\$11,676.75)	
EQUALS GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$2,515.86
AMORTIZED ANNUAL GIFT BALANCE	_____ -
CURRENT AMOUNT	\$2,515.86
MEMORIAL INTEREST EARNED	\$11.30
VANTAGE POINTE MONEY MARKET	\$ 5.65
VANTAGE POINTE MUTUAL FUND	\$10,642.78
BRINKER CAPITAL	\$4,026.24
TOTAL INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS (INCOME/(LOSS))	\$14,685.97

The Treasurer's Report was gratefully received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building & Grounds. Bruce Gregory said the Church could reduce the annual costs for lawnmowing, Fall leaf pickup, snow removal and custodial services if volunteers would do some of the work. We need volunteers to remove snow from sidewalks before Sunday services.
Christian Education. Sunday school is going well.

Fellowship. The Fellowship Committee is working on soup luncheons for Lent. Presbyterian Women will have a bake sale in April.

Finance. The Finance Committee will work on the 2025 budget.

NEW BUSINESS

Al Nelson's family has requested that his ashes be buried in the Columbarium. The Nelsons were longtime members of the Church. Following discussion, Paul Hershberger made a motion, supported by Jan Breckinridge, to approve the request. The motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

CLOSING PRAYER/ADJOURNMENT: Linda Stewart made a motion, supported by Carol Ludlow, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. Pastor Susan closed the meeting at 7:21 p.m. with a prayer.

F.P.C. PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Hello everyone! We have a few items to report to you this April.

We continue to do Bible study with both groups. Deborah Circle meets the second Monday of the month at 10:00am. Sarah Circle meets the second Tuesday of the month at 3:00pm.

The Food Pantry continues to accept with a grateful heart, all the food we have given. The Diaper Pantry is going strong. If you would like to donate 2 hours on a Thursday Night, please let the office know. This can be a onetime helper, or once a month. This outreach can be life changing for families in need.

All women are invited to attend the May 3, 2025 Presbyterian Women meeting in Grand Haven, Michigan. Please let Jan Corey know by Sunday, March 30, if you're interested in joining us. We will car pool from the church parking lot. The cost is \$20.00. It is a good time to see different churches and here about their programs.

We are having a Bake sale Sunday April 27th . Everyone is encouraged to bake something, or buy something. This is a good fund raiser for our group.

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

~F.P.C. OUTREACH REPORT~

DIAPER PANTRY WORK SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

4-3~ Chris & Jan C.
4-10~ Bob & Linda S.
4-17~ Beth & Rita
4-24~ Sue & Jan B.

<p>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!</p>

~The Diaper Pantry continues to serve our community in need. In 2025, we have handed out **394** 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

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

-**Food Pantry** Items needed for April 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!

We are in need of volunteers to fill 2,000 Easter eggs with candy, for the Easter Egg Hunt that is on April 19th.

(NO Nuts!)

Thank you to the volunteers!



Birthdays

Lois Williams 04/27

Rev. Susan Reichenberg 04/30

LECTIONARY FOR THE LORD'S DAY:

4-6~ *Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8*

4-13~ *Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Luke 19:28-40*

4-20~ *Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-18 (or Luke 24:1-12)*

4-27~ *Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 150; Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31*

~RECIPES~



Beet Pickled Deviled Eggs

These beet pickled deviled eggs take on a striking pink color when placed in to a pickled beet brine. They're a beautiful appetizer, sure to turn heads.

By **Pat Bennett**

Prep Time: 15 mins
 Cook Time: 5 mins
 Refrigerate Time: 12 hrs
 Cool Time: 20 mins
 Total Time: 12 hrs 40 mins
 Servings: 12
 Yield: 12 deviled eggs

Ingredients

Beet Brine

- 1 (8.5 ounce) can sliced beets
- 1/2 cup apple cider vinegar, or as needed
- 2 tablespoons white sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon peppercorns
- 6 large hard-boiled eggs

Filling

- 3 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon apple cider vinegar
- 1 dash hot sauce (optional)
- salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

garnishes, such as radishes, dill, fennel, black olive slices, chopped chives, Everything Bagel seasoning (optional)

Directions

- Step 1**
 For brine, drain beet juice into a small container; set beet slices aside. Add the 1/2 cup vinegar, sugar, salt, and peppercorns, and bring to a low boil over medium heat, stirring until sugar dissolves, 3 to 5 minutes. Let cool completely, about 20 minutes.
- Step 2**
 Place eggs in a jar or glass bowl (just large enough that brine will completely cover eggs; pour in brine. Top up with vinegar as needed to cover eggs completely. Refrigerate, covered, for at least 12 and up to 34 hours. The longer eggs are in brine, the deeper pink they will be.
- Step 3**
 Slice eggs in half lengthwise from top to bottom with a sharp knife. Remove yolks and place in a bowl. Mash yolks with a fork until smooth, and stir in mayonnaise, Dijon, the 1 teaspoon vinegar, and hot sauce, season with salt and pepper. As an option, if you have a small food processor, place all filling ingredients in it, and blend until smooth.
- Step 4**
 Spoon filling evenly into egg whites or add mixture to a piping bag or reusable plastic bag with one corner clipped. Pipe mixture into egg white halves, garnish as desired, and serve.



Lime Gelatin And Cottage Cheese Salad

Just like grandma used to make.

By **Kimberly Holland** Updated on January 23, 2023

Yield: 16 servings

Ingredients

- 1 (8-oz.) package lime gelatin
- 1 (8-oz.) package lemon gelatin
- 1 1/2 cups boiling water
- 1 1/2 cups ice water
- 1 cup well-drained crushed pineapple
- 2 cups cottage cheese
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 (14-oz.) can sweetened condensed milk
- 3 tablespoons prepared horseradish
- 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup finely chopped nuts

Directions

- Step 1**
 Dissolve gelatin in boiling water in a large bowl. Add ice water, and stir until ice melts and gelatin mixture cools. Stir in pineapple. Cover and chill 45 minutes or until slightly set. The mixture should be the consistency of uncooked egg whites.
- Step 2**
 Stir together cottage cheese, mayonnaise, sweetened condensed milk, horseradish, lemon juice, and salt in a medium bowl; stir into gelatin mixture. Fold in nuts.
- Step 3**
 Pour into mold, if desired. Cover and chill overnight.

Best Carrot Cake

When we say this is the best carrot cake, we really mean it.

By **Pam Lolley** Updated on March 30, 2024

Recipe tested by **Southern Living Test Kitchen**
 Active Time: 20 mins
 Total Time: 2 hrs 20 mins
 Servings: 30 to 12
 Yield: 1 (9-inch) cake

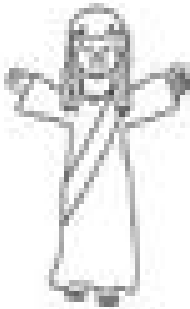
Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. table salt
- 2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 3 large eggs
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 3/4 cup vegetable oil
- 3/4 cup buttermilk
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 2 cups grated carrot
- 1 (8-oz.) can crushed pineapple, drained
- 3 1/2 oz. flaked coconut
- 1 cup chopped pecans or walnuts
- Buttermilk Glaze
- Cream Cheese Frosting

Directions

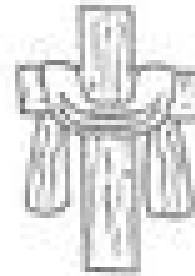
- Step 1**
Line pans:
 Preheat oven to 350°F. Line 3 (9-inch) round cake pans with parchment paper; lightly grease and flour parchment paper. Set pans aside.
- Step 2**
Combine dry ingredients:
 Stir together first 4 ingredients—flour, baking soda, salt, and cinnamon.
- Step 3**
Make batter:
 Beat eggs and next 4 ingredients at medium speed with an electric mixer until smooth. Add flour mixture, beating at low speed until blended. Fold in carrot and next 3 ingredients. Pour batter into prepared cake pans.
- Step 4**
Bake, glaze, and frost:
 Bake at 350°F for 25 to 30 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Drizzle Buttermilk Glaze evenly over layers; cool in pans on wire racks 15 minutes. Remove from pans, and cool completely on wire racks. Spread Cream Cheese Frosting between layers and on top and sides of cake.





EASTER

WORD SEARCH



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

JESUS
ANGELS
PASSEOVER

CROSS
GARDEN
SUNRISE

GUARDS
ALIVE
SACRIFICE

TOMB
CHRISTIAN
PILATE

April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 10:30-12 Book Group 12pm Lenten Lunch	<i>3</i> 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic 1st Thursday Prayer	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i> Communion Deacon Mtg	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> 10:30-12 Book Group 12pm Lenten Lunch	<i>10</i> 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i> Palm Sunday	<i>14</i> 10am Deborah Circle	<i>15</i> 3pm Sarah Circle	<i>16</i> 10:30-12 Book Group	<i>17</i> 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic 630pm Maundy Thursday Service Communion	<i>18</i> 12pm Good Friday Service	<i>19</i> 9-12pm Easter Egg Hunt
<i>20</i> Happy Easter! Communion One Great Hour of Sharing	<i>21</i> Office Closed	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 10:30-12 Book Group	<i>24</i> 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic 6pm Session	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i> P.W. Bake	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> 10:30-12 Book Group			

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
52 MARSHALL STREET
COLDWATER, MI 49036

April 2025
NEWSLETTER

HE IS RISEN

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

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

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