

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 : **

APRIL 2025 INCOME AND EXPENSES

PAYMENTS AND PAYROLL: \$14,809.85

INCOME AND DONATIONS: \$38,447.00

4-6~ \$7352

4-13~\$24381

4-20~\$4984

4-27~\$1730

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.

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

JUNE LITURGISTS

6-1~Linda Stewart

6-8~Anyone??!

6-15~Chris Doll

6-22~Beth Montgomery

6-29~Bob Stewart

JUNE COUNTERS

Dennis Farwell

Pete Metters

Carol Ludlow



Happy May friends of Coldwater FPC,

May, the month when winter is officially over and Spring is well on it's way toward Summer. This is a beautiful time of year for Michigan, and for believers. We have just experienced Easter with all of Holy Week worship services and the beauty of Easter morning in our sanctuary arrayed with lovely flowers and sights and smells. We are blessed individuals.

I heard today someone say "Jesus came as the King of the Jews and finished as the King of the World!" What a statement, and it's true! Our Messiah is the Son of God and the bringer of salvation for all those who have sinned (which is us).

The new book that the Book Group is reading shares with us the immense love God has for each one of us, how God has a plan for each of our lives and how none of us is insignificant! This is a message all of us need to hear from time to time.

You are an incredible congregation of loving, faithful people and it is my joy and privilege to serve our Risen Savior with you.

God bless you each and every one.

Susan

SPIRITUAL MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SUSAN

From “God’s Message for Each Day” by Eugene Peterson

“When Moses returned from the mountain of revelation, his face was shining so brightly that the people could not look on it. The Aaronic benediction prayers, “The LORD make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. . .” (Numbers 6:25) This is part of the benediction that I close with almost every Sunday. In Christ the blessing of God is made personal in the shining face: “His face was like the sun shining in full strength.” God in Christ is warmth and sunlight.”

You probably recall the Sunday of Transfiguration where Jesus’ clothing was brighter than any sun, reminiscent of this Moses passage, indicating that each were in the presence of the LORD.

While we don’t shine like the sun on the outside, we can shine like the sun on the inside every time we worship God on Sunday or any other day.

Below is the full Aaronic blessing: (meaning the blessing that was given from God by Aaron, the high priest of the Israelites during the Exodus.)

Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up HIS countenance upon you, and give you peace,

I also wish you peace, my friends.
God bless each of you this day.
Susan!

~DEACON & SESSION INFORMATION~

MAY DEACON IN CHARGE

Bob Montgomery

Communion Dates

5-4

~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 May 4th following the worship service, during Communion clean up.

~Next Session Meeting **May 29th** 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.



- † Infant Margo and family, Hope's friend
- † Skip Montgomery's family, as they mourn his passing, Bob Montgomery's brothers
- † Carol Ludlow as she recovers from knee replacement surgery.
- † Rod Poskitt's family
- † Karen Maxson
- † Peace in USA & world
- † 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

4-6~

- † Spring weather with rain and flowers
- † Looking forward to the resurrection of our Lord!
- † THANK YOU to everyone who brought soup & bread for Lenten Luncheons

4-13~

- † Jesus' ministry
- † Jesus' examples of how to live
- † Jesus' sacrifice for us

4-20~

- † Easter promises fulfilled
- † Our Congregation
- † Beauty created in Easter flowers

4-27~

- † The beautiful Holy week and Easter services
- † Evidence of spring all around us
- † The gift of prayer for one another

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COLDWATER
STATED MEETING OF SESSION THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025

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

Excused: Linda Stewart

Clerk of Session: Pete Metters

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

Session welcomed Michael Bryan and Rev. Kristin Stroble from the Lake Michigan Presbytery Commission on Ministry (COM) for a discussion of ways to address concerns about the sustainability of the Church and Susan's parttime status. Suggestions included a mediation service offered by the Presbytery, which Session would need to invite; listening sessions with small groups of Congregation members; and annual Pastor evaluations by the Personnel Committee. COM will follow up on the discussion.

The Agenda was approved on a motion by Paul Hershberger, supported by Chris Doll.

DEACON'S REPORT: Bob Montgomery gave the report. We have a shortage of Deacons. A Deacon will be assigned as Deacon of the Month for two consecutive months. We are satisfied with the current procedures for Communion, with tearing the bread from a loaf.

CLERK'S REPORT: The Minutes of the February 20, 2025 Session Meeting were approved on a motion by Paul Hershberger, supported by Bruce Gregory. Bruce Gregory made a motion, supported by Jan Breckinridge, to accept the Clerk's Report. The motion passed.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Susan reported on the use of her time. Tommy's House asked the Church to sponsor a table at its May 2, 2025 fundraising event at the Methodist Church. There will be a catered Italian meal with music. The cost is \$100. Paul Hershberger made a motion, supported by Jan Breckinridge, to sponsor a table. The motion passed.

Debbie Coleman and Kenny Kozial have asked to use the Church for their wedding on Saturday, September 20, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. There will be a rehearsal the night before. The reception will not be held at the Church. Jan Breckinridge made a motion, supported by Carol Ludlow, to approve the request. The motion passed.

On February 25, 2025, five churches met to hear from Joe Scheid, Director of Public Safety with the Coldwater Police Department. He discussed various practices churches were using to ensure the safety of their parishioners. He recommended keeping doors locked during services, being aware of all points of entry, cutting back bushes, and using cameras.

There will be an Ecumenical Service with the Methodist and Episcopal Churches at Noon on Good Friday (April 18).

Session will discuss the first chapter of "Canoeing the Mountain" at the April Session Meeting.

Session discussed the suggestion to pass out water bottles at Community events like the Strawberry Festival on June 21, 2025 and the Apple Festival on September 20, 2025.

Susan reported on the Presbytery Meeting on March 8, 2025.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT:

February 28, 2025

SOUTHERN MICHIGAN BANK	\$39,087.91
MINUS DESIGNATED FUNDS	(\$12,349.37)
EQUALS GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$26,738.54
AMORTIZED ANNUAL GIFT BALANCE	-
CURRENT AMOUNT	<u>\$26,738.54</u> -
MEMORIAL INTEREST EARNED	\$9.44
VANTAGE POINTE MONEY MARKET	\$ 1.96
VANTAGE POINTE MUTUAL FUND	\$9,030.36
BRINKER CAPITAL	<u>(\$115.40)</u>
TOTAL INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS (INCOME/(LOSS)	\$8,926.36

The Treasurer's Report was gratefully received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building & Grounds. The person who vandalized the Ring camera was ordered to pay \$320 in restitution and has gone through counseling.

Finance. The Finance Committee will meet on May 15 to finalize the 2025 budget.

NEW BUSINESS

Session discussed the price for Easter Flowers. Paul Hershberger made a motion, supported by Chris Doll, to set the price at \$15 each. The motion passed.

Becky Troust ask to use Fellowship Hall on May 7 from 6:30 p.m. 8:30 p.m. for her Homeowners Association's annual meeting. Paul Hershberger made a motion, supported by Jan Breckridge, to approve the request. The motion passed.

The Coldwater Community Center has asked the Church to consent to serving alcohol at events on July 19, August 2 and December 12, 2025. Consent is required because of the Church's close proximity to the Center. The Church has given its consent in prior years. Paul Hershberger made a motion, supported by Carol Ludlow, to the Center's request for consent this year. The motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Chris made a motion, supported by Jan Breckridge, to accept Lisa Renshaw's resignation as a member of Session. The motion passed.

CLOSING PRAYER/ADJOURNMENT: Chris Doll made a motion, supported by Jan Breckinridge, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. Pastor Susan closed the meeting at 8:00 p.m. with a prayer.

F.P.C. PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

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

We are going to Grand Haven for our Spring Get together.. Saturday, May3 in Grand Heaven.

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 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

~F.P.C. OUTREACH REPORT~

DIAPER PANTRY WORK SCHEDULE FOR MAY

5-1~Bob & Linda S.
5-8~Lois & Dean W.
5-15~Rita & Sue P.
5-22~Jan C. & Beth
5-29~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!

~The Diaper Pantry continues to serve our community in need. In 2025, we have handed out **227** 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

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

-Food Pantry Items needed for May 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

Karen Maxson 5-1

Carol Ludlow 5-17

Heather Gregory 5-26

Doris Heineman 5-30



Anniversaries

Paul & Lorie Hershberger 5-2

LECTIONARY FOR THE LORD'S DAY:

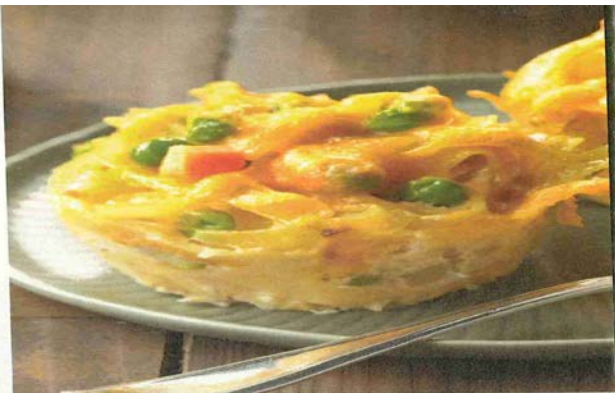
5-4~ *Acts 9:1-6, (7-20); Psalm 30;
Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19*

5-11~ *Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23;
Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30*

5-18~ *Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148;
Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35*

5-25~ *Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67;
Revelation 21:1-10, 22-22:5; John
14:23-29*

~RECIPES~



Tuna Noodle Cups

Older kids can get a jump on preparing dinner by stirring up these miniature tuna casseroles. Or serve them for brunch with fresh fruit, a tossed salad and rolls.

—Marlene Pugh, Fort McMurray, AB

Prep: 25 min. • Bake: 30 min.
Makes: 9 servings

- 8 oz. uncooked medium egg noodles (about 4 cups)
- 2 cans (5 oz. each) light tuna in water, drained
- 2 cups frozen peas and carrots (about 10 oz.), thawed
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese, divided
- 3 large eggs
- 1 can (12 oz.) evaporated milk
- ½ cup water
- 1 tsp. garlic salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper

1. Preheat the oven to 350°. In a 6-qt. stockpot, cook noodles according to package directions; drain and return to pot. Add tuna, peas and carrots, onion and 1 cup cheese.
 2. Whisk together eggs, milk, water and seasonings; toss with noodle mixture. Divide among 18 well-greased muffin cups. Sprinkle with remaining cheese.
 3. Bake for 30-35 minutes or until heated through. Cool 5 minutes. Loosen edges with a knife before removing from pans.
- 2 NOODLE CUPS** 316 cal., 14g fat (7g sat. fat), 131mg chol., 549mg sod., 27g carb. (5g sugars, 2g fiber), 21g pro.



LUSCIOUS LAYERS

You can layer a trifle precisely with perfectly defined layers. Or you can do free-form layers (as shown here) for a more casual, potluck-style look. Either way, it's a lovely sight (and so delish!).

STRAWBERRY LEMON TRIFLE

This refreshingly fruity dessert is one of our favorites. It looks so beautiful layered in a glass bowl that people will think you spent a lot of time in the kitchen. The secret is starting with a purchased angel food cake.

—Lynn Marie Frucci, La Center, WA

Prep: 20 min. • chilling
Makes: 14 servings

- 4 oz. fat-free cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup fat-free vanilla yogurt
- 2 cups fat-free milk
- 1 pkg. (3.4 oz.) instant lemon pudding mix
- 2 tsp. grated lemon zest
- 2½ cups sliced fresh strawberries, divided
- 1 Tbsp. white grape juice or water
- 1 prepared angel food cake (12 oz.)
- Optional: Whipped topping and additional strawberries

1. In a blender, process ½ cup strawberries and grape juice until blended.
 2. Cut cake into 1-in. cubes; place a third in a trifle bowl or 3-qt. serving bowl. Top with a third of the pudding mixture and half the remaining strawberries. Drizzle with half the strawberry sauce. Repeat layers. Top with remaining cake and pudding mixture. If desired, garnish with whipped topping and additional strawberries. Cover and refrigerate at least 2 hours.
- ½ CUP 108 cal., 0 fat (0 sat. fat), 2mg chol., 279mg sod., 21g carb. (10g sugars, 1g fiber), 4g pro. **DIABETIC EXCHANGES** 1½ starch.



Strawberry Arugula Salad with Feta

The combination of arugula, strawberries and feta may sound unusual, but it's delicious!

—Carla Horne, Meridian, MS

Takes: 15 min. • Makes: 12 servings

- 6 cups fresh arugula or baby spinach
 - 1½ cups sliced fresh strawberries
 - ½ cup slivered almonds or pine nuts
 - ½ cup crumbled garlic-and-herb feta cheese
 - 4 green onions, chopped
- VINAIGRETTE**
¼ cup olive oil

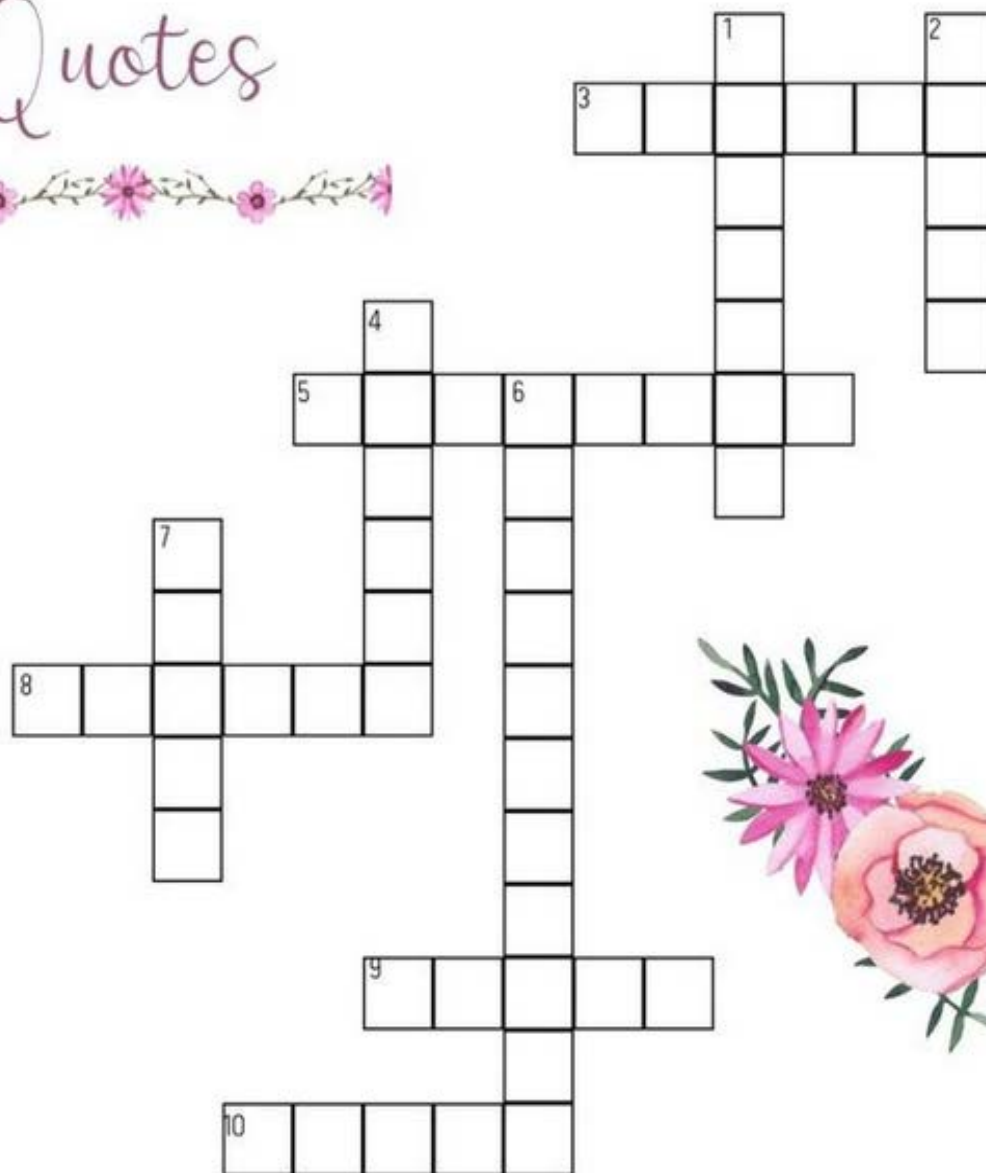
- 1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
- 1 Tbsp. red wine vinegar
- 2 tsp. lemon juice
- 1½ tsp. balsamic vinegar
- 1 tsp. minced fresh rosemary or ¼ tsp. dried rosemary, crushed
- 1 tsp. fresh sage or ¼ tsp. dried sage leaves
- ¼ tsp. celery seed
- ¼ tsp. pepper

In a salad bowl, combine first 5 ingredients. In a small bowl, whisk vinaigrette ingredients. Drizzle over salad; toss to coat.

½ CUP 106 cal., 9g fat (2g sat. fat), 3mg chol., 88mg sod., 4g carb. (2g sugars, 1g fiber), 2g pro.



Popular Bible Quotes



Across

- 3 Am I my brother's
- 5 The Lord is my
- 8 To everthing there is a
- 9 I am the Alpha and the
- 10 He makes beauty out of

Down

- 1 Can it change it spots:
- 2 Goes before destruction
- 4 Many are called by few are
- 6 Blessed are the
- 7 Love the Lord God with all your

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<i>1</i> 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering Tommy House Dinner
<i>4</i> Holy Communion Deacon Meeting	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> 10:30-12pm Book Group	<i>8</i> 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic	<i>9</i> Pastor Susan Gone	<i>10</i> Pastor Susan Gone
<i>11</i> Happy Mothers Day! Pastor Susan Gone	<i>12</i> 10am Deborah Circle Pastor Susan Gone	<i>13</i> 3pm Sarah Circle Pastor Susan Gone	<i>14</i> 10:30-12pm Book Group Pastor Susan Gone	<i>15</i> 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic Pastor Susan Gone	<i>16</i> Pastor Susan Gone	<i>17</i> Pastor Susan Gone
<i>18</i> Pastor Susan Gone	<i>19</i> Pastor Susan Gone	<i>20</i> Pastor Susan Gone	<i>21</i> 10:30-12pm Book Group Pastor Susan Gone	<i>22</i> 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic Pastor Susan Gone	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> Memorial Day! Office Closed	<i>27</i> 10am Family Promise	<i>28</i> 10:30-12pm Book Group	<i>29</i> 4-6pm D.P. & Clinic 6pm Session	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> Kevin Earl Memorial Service

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
52 MARSHALL STREET
COLDWATER, MI 49036

May 2025 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