

# FIRST PRESS

Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church Ann Arbor

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## Dear Friends,

Greetings from the 2022 Annual Giving Work Group.

This year our Church celebrates the 195th Anniversary of its founding. After a year and a half of uncertainty, we are grateful to be back together worshipping as a community of faith. To celebrate, we wanted to do some special things to mark this stewardship season.

First, a hymn entitled "Peace by Piece" – our Annual Giving theme – was commissioned for First Pres and will premiere during the fall worship services. This wonderful hymn is full of images of God's restoration and making all things new.

Second, a marvelous art installation of handmade peace cranes that compliment the hymn will be in the sanctuary.

Third, as part of a packet that you should have already received in the mail, the Annual Giving Work Group created a one-of-a-kind calendar. As you use it daily, view the peace crane as a symbol of hope, faith and renewal for the next leg of our journey with Jesus Christ – and a symbol of how important your pledge is to the Church.

God's grace and gifts truly are boundless. How will we express our gratitude in return? By intentionally making God's Love Visible in all we do. Please prayerfully consider your joyful response to the numerous blessings God has bestowed on us, our church, our community and the world.



In addition to the calendar, the Annual Giving packet also includes Pledge Commitment and Opportunity to Serve forms. If you did not receive the packet or prefer to "go digital," this information is also available on-line at <https://www.firstpresbyterian.org/contribute/donate/stewardship-2022>.

Please return the forms by mail in the provided envelope or complete them on-line as soon as possible. Every pledge of time, talent and money is important. Thank you for your support.

Deanne Woodruff, Chair  
2022 Annual Giving Work Group



# WORSHIP

Over the last several months we have written about the Order of Worship as outlined in the Book of Common Worship of the PC(USA). In the September edition of First Press we talked about the Gospel and Epistle readings and the Revised Common Lectionary. All of these things lead up to the Proclamation of the Word, most often in the form of a sermon. At FPC, this sermon might be offered by one of our clergy staff, by a guest preacher, or even in some form other than the spoken word – a musical offering or even a liturgical drama, dance or visual art.



To quote the Book of Common Worship: “The sermon, based on the scripture read in worship, proclaims the good news of the risen Lord, and presents the gift and calling of the gospel.” Through the sermon we encounter Jesus the Christ in God’s word, are equipped to follow him more faithfully, and are inspired to proclaim the gospel to others through our own words and deeds. If this sounds like a tall order, it surely is. Pastors spend hours – really days – in prayer and thoughtful study for every sermon they preach, and ultimately trust in the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Their sermons must faithfully interpret the scripture, but also communicate with and be relevant to their particular congregation, which is often diverse in background, stage of life, and place in their faith journey. The sermon most often begins with a prayer that the words that are offered and the response of the listeners are acceptable to God.

Every aspect of the worship service is based on the scripture that the pastor has chosen, but the sermon, more than any other element, brings the word of God to the people.

Next month we will look at the many things that might follow the sermon, depending on the particular week, the schedule of the sacraments, and the custom of the congregation.

## Origami Peace Crane Art Installation

Soaring overhead in our sanctuary is a brilliantly-hued representation of the prayers of the people. Each flash of color is an origami crane.



And inside each bird is written the name of a church member who was prayed for as the bird was folded. Yet the focus of this artwork is larger than any individual or congregation. These peace cranes were folded during the Covid-19 pandemic by FPC members. The work – made up of over 3,500 cranes – also marked the International Day of Peace, Sept. 21. On this date, people around the globe were encouraged to participate in acts of peace. And in addition, these peace cranes support our Annual Giving Campaign, Peace by Piece.

Why origami cranes? Early in 1955, a 12-year-old girl named Sadako Sasaki (佐々木 禎子) developed leukemia as a result of exposure to radiation from the nuclear bomb dropped on her hometown, Hiroshima, at the end of World War II. Visiting her in the hospital, Sadako’s best friend reminded her of the Japanese legend that, if she could fold 1,000 cranes, her wish to be made well might be granted.

Stories differ as to whether Sadako was able to finish 1,000 cranes before her death in October 1955, or whether her friends completed the task in her memory. Regardless, a statue of Sadako holding a golden crane now stands in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial and, every day, cranes arrive from people all over the world who hope and pray and work for peace.

Like Sadako’s cranes, the exact number of First Pres’ cranes is unknown. We estimate it to be more than 3,500. Many thanks to all who prayed these three-dimensional prayers and helped create our art installation that can now inspire us all to serve the Prince of Peace.

## Yale Whiffenpoofs in Concert at FPC!

Wednesday, Oct. 27  
7 p.m., Sanctuary  
Tickets cost \$10 per person.  
Get your tickets in advance  
at <https://www.whiffenpoofs.com/ann-arbor>



## Taizé Prayer Service

Tuesday, Oct. 5  
7 p.m., in Monteith Hall (In-person)  
A contemplative service of songs, prayers, scriptures, silence, and candles. All are welcome! This service is also available via YouTube and Facebook.



## THANK YOU to Kellie McInchak!

First Presbyterian wants to express our deepest thanks to Kellie McInchak for directing the Children's Choir for the past three years, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic! Kellie has been a faithful and creative staff member ministering to our children and families through music. MANY THANKS, Kellie!



## Open House and Meet the Artist: Joel Schoon-Tanis

Art Exhibit – 40 Gospels  
[www.joelschoontanisart.com](http://www.joelschoontanisart.com)  
Open House and Artist Talk – Friday, Oct. 8  
6:30 – 8 p.m., Social Hall  
A light reception will be offered.  
Free and welcome to all ages!



Joel's art is now hung in the Social Hall. When you are at church, stop down into the Social Hall to see his whimsical art!

Joel Schoon-Tanis' painting explores God's creation and stories from a whimsical child-like perspective.

Joel is a celebrated painter who has shown his work around the United States – from Michigan to Florida to Colorado to Washington, D.C. Joel has also shown his works as far away as Kenya where he did an art show in Nairobi to raise money for the African Fund for Endangered Wildlife. His murals can be found in many schools, children's hospitals and churches including murals in Kenya, Zambia, Palestine and the exotic terrains of northern Wisconsin. As an illustrator, Joel has contributed to more than half a dozen books for children.

Read more about Joel and his exhibit on the following page.

## First Pres Orchestra Begins! (Youth and Adults)

Please come and join the Church Orchestra. We will begin rehearsals on Sunday, Oct. 10, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Rehearse on Saturday, Oct. 16, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., and play in our 9:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, Oct. 17. All youth and adults are welcome to join us! Contact Dave VanderMeer at [dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org).

## Children's Choir has begun with Shayla Powell

Children Grades K-5 are welcome to sing in the Children's Choir.

Please meet Shayla and Beca Torres-Davenport by the pulpit door to sing at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday! The children rehearse in Monteith Hall from 10:30 – 10:55 a.m. ALL ARE WELCOME!



## Peace by Piece Dedication Sunday

Oct. 31  
Guest Preacher, Sara Wiles

## Save the Date Sunday, Nov. 7 – 3 p.m.

All Saints' Sunday Choral Concert  
The Chancel Choir and Orchestra will offer *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré. Donations to the Sacred Music and Fine Arts Fund will be accepted.

## 40 Gospels by Joel Schoon-Tanis - Opening on Oct. 8 at 6:30 p.m.

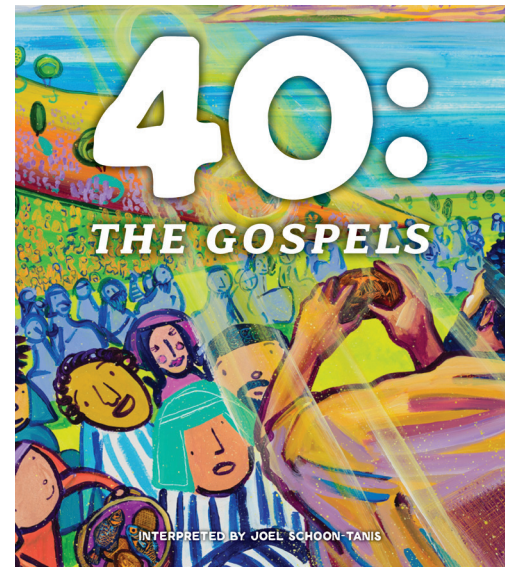
### About the project...

Approaching the world through a childlike lens, Joel Schoon-Tanis juxtaposes realistic images and whimsical kid drawings in retelling the Gospels. The result lets him shed fresh light on these centuries old stories, inviting the viewer to think in new ways as well.

Over his 30-year professional art career, Schoon-Tanis has often explored Biblical themes. His love of animals and children initially had him painting a lot of Noah's Ark! Soon he started exploring other stories, which led to the illustration of the NIV Kids' Study Bible. In 2015 he took on the entire Biblical narrative in his first large format art book, "40: The Biblical Story."

In the years since the first "40", Schoon-Tanis has taken multiple trips to the Holy Land, and these trips piqued his interest in diving deeper into the Gospel narratives. Specifically, he became interested in the different viewpoints and themes taken by the different Gospel writers. And so a new set of 40 images was born.

Through fun, color, and whimsy, this collection will take viewers, both young and old, through Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John in new ways. The paintings will inspire both joy and inspiration.



### About Joel...



Joel Schoon-Tanis has been a working artist for 30 years. That means he has made a lot of art, as well as shown it all over the world.

Joel has written and illustrated over a dozen books (recently "At Psalm's School" and "At God's Table"), painted murals all over the U.S.A. as well as in Kenya, Zambia, and the Separation Wall in Palestine, and painted nearly a gazillion pieces of "fine art." His work is in churches, children's hospitals, schools, restaurants, businesses and many private collections. In 2016 one of his images was presented to the Pope. In 2017 he joined international artists in Leipzig, Germany to create art during a celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Sometimes people lure him out to talk about the creative life (among other things).

He lives in Holland, Michigan with his super smart wife Kathy, PhD., and creative, clever girls Harper and Beatrix.



## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

### Fast-Track to Membership!

Join First Pres! Become a member in as little as 20 minutes, on Sunday, Oct. 10 or 17, at 11 a.m. in the Lead Pastor's office. Meet with Rev. Rogers and 2 elders from Session. Help us get to know you and you us – and after joining, we ask you to attend a New Member Class this fall or early spring. We look forward to you joining as a full or affiliate member (see Rev. Rogers for more information). Contact [mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org) or see any pastor after a worship service. You can also attend the (online) New Member Class on Oct. 3 (see article below) before joining.



### New Member Class Coming!

Have you joined since June, or are you considering joining? Attend our online New Member Class on Sunday, Oct. 3, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The Zoom link is available by calling the Church Office, or Rev. Rogers, [mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org). We will have a fun, fast 2 hours together, getting to know our church, our staff, and more about you!

### Tell Me More About This Church!

Join us at the Session Room (Jackson Road) on Sunday, Oct. 24, at 4:30 p.m., for a tasty beverage and some nibbles! Let's chat about First Pres so



you can know more – who are we? How'd we get here? Where are we going? Besides the Gospel first, what else guides us? Contact Rev. Rogers for more information, or to sign up – [mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org). This is a family-friendly restaurant – and all are welcome!

### Greeters Needed for Sunday Morning

Now that our doors are open again on Sunday morning, folks are visiting, people are arriving, and help is needed! Can you serve as a friendly greeter at one of our doors on a Sunday morning from 9 – 9:30? Yes, you can! All you need is the ability to say "Good morning, welcome!" as our beloved member Ruth Barnard is doing! Email Rev. Rogers for the link to the sign up list. We need you!



### Congregational Life Needs Your Energy: Seeking Members

The CL Committee sponsors activities that nurture and grow our sense of fellowship and belonging. We have open hearts, open minds and open arms, and we need your hearts, minds and arms to help us! We meet on the first Monday of each month from 6 – 7 p.m., often online, sometimes in person at First Pres. From greeters, to Coffee Hour, to New Member gatherings and welcoming – we are the life-blood of connecting people to one another and making sure First Pres truly is "radically hospitable." Take a chance and join us! Contact Marti Wendler ([wendlerme@gmail.com](mailto:wendlerme@gmail.com)) or Rev. Rogers (734-662-4466, ext. 390) and we hope to see you at our October meeting!

### All-Church Bonfire

Sunday, Oct. 24, 6 p.m.

Families, Members, Couples, Students, Youth, Kiddos, ALL are welcome for S'mores! We'll meet from 6 – 7 p.m. at White Oaks Farm, 6641 Zeeb Rd, Dexter, MI 48130. Everything will be provided. Come enjoy a nice fall evening with fire, marshmallows, chocolate, and more. There is ample parking. RSVP to the Church Office or to Rev. Rogers so we know to plan for you!



# FAITH FORMATION

## CHILDREN

For further information about our programs and ministries for children and families, contact Beca Torres-Davenport, [btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org).

## MILESTONE MINISTRY

This month, we celebrate the **"Exploring the Word of God" Milestone** with the 3rd graders as they receive their first Bible on Sunday, Oct. 10, at the 9:30 a.m. service. The presentation of a Bible is a worship event to remind us of God's Word as a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. As children read and study God's word, they develop a greater awareness of their own relationship with God and how they can grow into their calling as a faithful disciple. Please check your mail for a special letter if you have a child in this age group!



## KUDOS & GRATITUDE!

Many thanks and gratitude for the volunteers that spent time this summer and early fall in helping to organize, clean, and rearrange the 3rd floor children's spaces! It was no easy task, but the updated spaces will make materials easy access for all to find, a craft room available to all ministries, and a children's worship space for when better air filtration is available. Thank you: Delena Harrison and family, Rebecca Gaffney, Alice Holderby, Lisa Arnsdorf, Jennie Stahl and Daniel Torres-Davenport.

## WORSHIP LAB & FAITH FORMATION

We had a great first month of trying out our new Sunday model. Children have loved being offered the opportunity to touch worship materials and ask questions about worship. As we live into faith formation experience, children will be given the opportunity to help write a Call to Worship, act out a Bible story, ask questions of a baptism, bake communion bread, and more!



We also give thanks to our nurturing volunteers who are teaching classes this fall. Thank you, Cassee Stem Progar, Elisabeth VanVliet, Daniel Torres-Davenport, Sarah Glinka Endicott, Brian Meade, Dan Musser, Marlee Brown, Kevin Pipe, Lisa Arnsdorf, and Brian Schneidewind.



## DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

Oct. 10	9:30 a.m. worship	Bible presentation for 3rd graders
	11 a.m.	Milestone event
<b>Nov. 20</b>	<b>10 a.m. - 12 p.m.</b>	<b>Advent Happening</b>
Dec. 5	11 a.m.	Nativity Service Parent meeting
Dec. 11	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Nativity Rehearsal
Dec. 18	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Nativity Rehearsal with Speakers and Costumes
<b>Dec. 19</b>	<b>11:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Nativity Service</b>

## Youth Formation Opportunities

It's not too late to sign up for Confirmation! Join Pastors Megan Berry, Jay Sanderford, and Mark Mares as we embark on this important milestone journey. All middle school and high school students are invited to join Pastor Matthew J and other leaders here at First Pres for CrossWord, an exploration of current events and the Bible. All formation opportunities meet in the Youth Room every Sunday (except the first Sunday of each month) at 11 a.m. All are welcome!



## Youth Group!

Middle school (MSYG) and High school (HSYG) continue this month on Sundays from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at the church. We meet on the Hill Street lawn, or in the Social Hall if it's raining. We would love to have you join us - all are welcome!

## All-Youth Workday

Save the date for Saturday, Oct. 16, for an all-youth work day opportunity. See the church website or youth instagram for more information, or contact Rev. Mark at [mmares@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mmares@firstpresbyterian.org).

## The Amazing Race: First Pres Youth Edition

In the spirit of the popular television show, on Nov. 14, join First Pres youth as several teams race around the Ann Arbor/Ypsi area completing several legs, interacting with members, performing physical and mental challenges to see who will win the Amazing Race! To participate, click the sign up link here or contact Rev. Mark at [mmares@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mmares@firstpresbyterian.org). We need lots of volunteers to make this happen - if you're interested and willing to help us out, please contact Rev. Mark.

## Halloween Party

Join us on Oct. 31 for an off-site Youth Halloween celebration! We'll gather together in our costumes, play some games, fellowship and chat around the fire. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring a friend, all are invited! Location TBD - contact Pastor Mark at [mmares@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mmares@firstpresbyterian.org) for more details.



## Minecraft Office Hours

Do you enjoy playing Minecraft? Have you always wanted to try? Join Rev. Mark on the First Pres Minecraft Realm this year for virtual 'office hours' as we try to recreate the First Pres grounds in the world of Minecraft for the 195th anniversary. For more information, contact Rev. Mark Mares at [mmares@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mmares@firstpresbyterian.org).



# CAMPUS

## UKirk@UMich Campus Ministry

Fall welcome activities went really well as we attended Festifall, hosted a pool party on North Campus and had several outdoor college lunches as the semester began. Rev. Evans McGowan continues to meet with students weekly. The small group during the 11 a.m. Faith Formation hour has begun, with a focus on how the world changes us and how we can affect change in the world.



Oct. 8-10 is our College Fall Retreat at Faholo with students from UM and MSU. Who says there can't be peace amongst rivals? There will certainly be a lot of fun and fellowship! Fall Break is Oct. 18-19, with midterms before and after. Please pray for our students as they continue to adjust to in-person studies during a pandemic.

## T2A2 (TWENTIES & THIRTIES)

Twenties and Thirties of Ann Arbor (T2A2) had fun on Labor Day with a cookout and lawn games. T2A2 is a community for all in their twenties and thirties. October happenings include the regular events of Wednesday evening hangouts and Sunday small group Bible study. Also look out for an upcoming hike and an orchard visit.

Interested in learning more? Check out the latest on the T2A2 page of the church website: <https://www.firstpresbyterian.org/connect/adult-ministry/t2a2-twenties-thirties> and join our email list by shooting an email to [t2a2@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:t2a2@firstpresbyterian.org).



## ADULT FORMATION

### Who We Are

Faith Formation for all at 11 a.m. means multiple learning opportunities for adults: Bible study, worship dialogue, and discussion groups. Attend a gathering that catches your interest any given Sunday or join a group for a multi-week study.

### First Friends (Meets in the Lewis Room)

First Friends is a self-directed adult fellowship group that uses numerous online materials to stimulate discussion about a variety of religious and spiritual topics. The group provides a safe and confidential place for people to share concerns and receive Christian support. All are welcome.

First Friends will discuss the Adam Hamilton DVD "Why?: Making Sense of God's Will." Followed by two sessions on Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution.



## **Exploring the Faith: Worship (Meets in the Chancel Area/Choir Loft of the Sanctuary)**

This fall, Exploring the Faith will be led by our Pastors, Resident Ministers, and guest preachers to continue the conversation with members and visitors about sermon messages or related worship topics. This will be a closer time spent in the company of our Pastors and Resident Ministers to become further acquainted and familiar with their views on following Jesus' example and biblical interpretation.

**Oct. 3** - interacting with Rev. Lal Rodawla, former Resident Minister during the intergenerational activity or in a conversation group.

**Oct. 17** – PW 175th anniversary

**Oct. 24** – David VanderMeer will lead a session on Art and Peace, discussing the significance of cranes and red material in the sanctuary and worship.

**Oct. 31** – Sarah Wiles, guest preacher and former Resident will lead a discussion on Reformation Sunday

## **The Bible at 11 o'clock (Meets in Curtis Room)**

We will continue our study of Isaiah. Isaiah has 66 chapters, covers nearly 300 years of history under three empires, and is not in historical order. There will be 30 classes, so we must read in a different way with a different set of goals.

## **T2A2 – Twenties & Thirties (Meets in Founders Room)**

Twenties and Thirties of Ann Arbor (T2A2) is a great way to meet people and build community! Join us at 11 on most Sundays in the Founders Room to discuss faith-related questions as we study the book of Romans, have lunch, and share about our weeks. See additional information about T2A2 elsewhere in the newsletter. **T2A2 will hold their discussion group at 11 a.m. followed by lunch under the Canopy.**

## **Parent/Adult Confirmation**

We are offering something new this year: a parent/adult confirmation class that will follow the main themes that youth are learning in their confirmation class. Whether you have been here your whole life and remember everything from your confirmation class or you were confirmed in another church or you simply want a reminder of what you learned and what our youth are learning, please come to this class!

Class meets in the Vance Room during the 11 a.m. Faith Formation Hour on the second and fourth Sundays of each month and be led by Resident Minister Megan Berry and Rev. Jay Sanderford.

## **Social Justice Action Group**

What social justice issues are important to you today? Racism, gun violence, climate change, voting rights? How can you take action and advocate individually or join others in taking action on social justice issues?

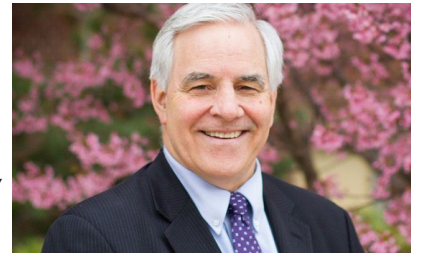
Local Mission and Adult Formation work groups are now collaborating to respond to that very question. A Social Justice Action Group is being formed to support advocacy efforts, participate in community events, and take further action in response to specific social justice issues supported by the congregation. Individuals can participate by advocating as individuals, participate in a group related to a specific issue, and/or participate in community-wide advocacy activities. Initially, the group will focus on three (3) key issues that the congregation has supported - Dismantling Racism, Gun Violence Prevention and Climate Justice.

You can learn about the group by going to the Social Justice Action Group webpage <https://www.firstpresbyterian.org/connect/adult-ministry/social-justice-workgroup> and you can email [SJAG@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:SJAG@firstpresbyterian.org) to get more information.

## MATURE MINISTRIES

### Lunch and Learn welcomes Ken Fischer!

On Thursday, Oct. 14, Mature Ministries' Lunch & Learn will present Ken Fischer, President Emeritus of the University Musical Society (UMS) and currently a Guest Faculty member at the University of Michigan's School of Music, Theatre and Dance (SMTD). In the summer of 2020, Ken published a book entitled *Everybody In, Nobody Out: Inspiring Community at Michigan's University Musical Society*, chronicling his tenure as Director of UMS (1987–2017) and his goal of expanding and diversifying that organization's programming and audiences, reflected in the book's title. The book includes a Foreword by musical icon Wynton Marsalis, a longtime collaborator with the UMS and close personal friend of Ken.



Though peppered with colorful anecdotes of how successful this mission came to be, the book is neither a history of UMS nor a memoir of Ken's significant accomplishments. Rather it is a reflection on the power of the performing arts to engage and enrich communities – not by handing down cultural enrichment from on high, but by meeting communities where they live and helping them preserve heritage, incubate talent and find ways to make community voices heard. The goal of this book closely matches the Mission and Vision of First Pres in its goal of greater inclusion on all levels.

The Oct. 14 Lunch & Learn will begin at noon with a box lunch eaten outside (either on the Terrace or under the Canopy on the Hill Street Lawn). At 1 p.m., all are then invited to the Sanctuary, where Ken will be interviewed by First Pres member and longtime member of the UMS Choral Union, Marilyn Meeker. This will be followed by a Q&A session and a book-signing. All are invited to the talk and book-signing, even if they haven't attended the lunch. Copies of the book will be available for purchase during the lunch hour for signing. Books cost \$20 (tax included in that price), cash or check, and ALL proceeds of sales go directly to UMS. This is Ken's way of continuing to support the organization he served for 30 years. Please join us for the first local in-person book-signing Ken has been able to have since the outbreak of the COVID pandemic! Watch for an on-line signup to be emailed to you, or find it on the website when posted. All box lunches will be ordered and must be paid for ahead of time.

### Mature Ministries Travels to Saginaw

Join First Pres Mature Ministries on Oct. 28 for a visit to the Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum in Saginaw. Fredericks was a Detroit-based commercial sculptor, best known locally for the "Spirit of Detroit" outside Detroit City Hall, the large Eagle inside the Michigan Stadium, and the largest cross in the U.S. in Indian River, Mich. The museum visit includes time in the artist's studio, his archives, and a number of plaster casts and finished works, all of which were placed in the museum by Fredericks himself.



Lunch will follow the museum visit at Zehnder's in Frankenmuth. Its family-style chicken dinners include appetizers, soup, salads, fall vegetables, potatoes, noodles, stuffing and plenty of famous Frankenmuth chicken. A morning of art and lunch at a Michigan favorite – sounds like a fall adventure to remember! **Depart at 8 a.m. from the church and return by 4:30 p.m.** The price of \$50 includes lunch and bus travel. **Museum admission is free; on site donations are welcome.**

## PASTORAL CARE



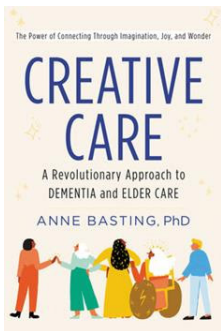
On Monday, Oct. 4, at 7 p.m., we are honored to have Dr. John Greden with us to present a Stephen Ministry-sponsored Continuing Education lecture entitled "Overcoming Clinical Depressions: The Future is Now, Your Help is Needed" in Monteith Hall. This event is open to all of our members and



the community. All are invited to attend. This presentation will be live-streamed on the First Pres YouTube page and available to watch later. Dr. Greden is the Rachel Upjohn Professor Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences Active Emeritus; Research Professor, Molecular and Behavioral Neurosciences, Founder and Executive Director, University of Michigan Comprehensive Depression Center, Founding Chair, National Network of Depression Centers, Chair Emeritus, University of Michigan Department of Psychiatry. He has authored or co-authored more than 400 publications, has presented at over 335 invited and named lectures, has three decades of NIH funding as investigator, co-investigator and consultant and currently leads a multi-site study of pharmacogenomics and developing treatment strategies to prevent recurrences of depression and bipolar disorders. Among his many accolades and leadership positions, in 2020, he was the recipient of the University of Michigan annual Board of Regents Award for Distinguished Public Service.



## BOOK REPORT – “Creative Care – A Revolutionary Approach to DEMENTIA and ELDER CARE” by ANNE BASTING, PhD



Anne Basting PhD is the author of the book titled “Creative Care – A Revolutionary Approach to DEMENTIA and ELDER CARE.” She is a MacArthur Genius Grant winner and a theater professor at UW-Milwaukee. Basting offers a distinctive combination of personal narrative (her mother’s recent diagnosis of Alzheimer’s), research, and recommendations on how everyone can develop “creative care” to friends and family who have dementia. Although her focus is on people with dementia, she offers much hope in her endorsement of creativity to reach and connect with people who others might write off as “gone.”

Early in her career, Basting noticed a problem: today’s elderly – especially those experiencing dementia and Alzheimer’s – are often isolated in nursing homes or segregated in elder-care settings, making the final years of life feel lonesome and devoid of meaning. To lessen their sense of aloneness, Basting developed an approach that combines methods from the world of theater and improvisation with evidence-based therapies that connect people using their own creativity and imagination. This approach fosters storytelling and active listening, allowing elders to freely share ideas and stories without worrying about getting the details “correct.”

In *Creative Care*, Basting lays the foundation for an extensive transformation in our approach to elder care and uses compelling, touching stories to inspire and guide us all—family, friends, and health professionals—in new ways and satisfying ways. *Creative Care* promises to bring light and hope to a community that needs it most. This is a wonderful book, even if you only read it for Anne Basting’s story.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

### 2021 Honorary Life Membership Award Recipients

The Honorary Life Membership Award is presented to those who exemplify outstanding and faithful service to the church and to Presbyterian Women. This year, Virginia Bell and Brad Taylor were selected as the very worthy recipients of this award. Congratulations, Ginny and Brad!



### Nurture Your Faith with PW

Horizons Bible Study - Thursday, Oct. 14, 10:30 – 11:45 a.m., Curtis Room

What My Grandmothers Taught Me - Learning from the Women in Matthew’s Genealogy of Jesus. Jill Binkley leads the discussion on Lesson Two, “Tamar.” After the meeting, join Mature Ministries expanded Lunch &

Learn program in the Social Hall. Sign up in the Church Office. Program begins at noon. Not comfortable meeting in person? Join the meeting on Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81113291748>. Need a book? Contact Peggy Hodgson at [peggyhodgson@comcast.net](mailto:peggyhodgson@comcast.net) or Meg Brown at [Imegbrown@gmail.com](mailto:Imegbrown@gmail.com).



## **New! Evening Horizons Bible Study** **Thursday, Oct. 14, 7 - 8 p.m., Founders Room**

Join Jenna Mares for an evening study of *What My Grandmothers Taught Me - Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*. Contact Jenna at 712-299-1971, [jenna.harms66@gmail.com](mailto:jenna.harms66@gmail.com), for more information.

## **William Barclay Commentary Bible Study** **Begins Wednesday, Oct. 13, 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

This group meets weekly and will study *Letters to the Ephesians & Galatians*. Contact Meg Brown, [Imegbrown@gmail.com](mailto:Imegbrown@gmail.com), for details and schedule of this year's inspiring study.

## **Presbyterian Women Celebrates 175 Years of Service** **Sunday, Oct. 17, at Coffee Hour**

Join the party! Come to Coffee Hour and discover more about Presbyterian Women past and present. See displays on PW's involvement in the life of First Pres over the years and learn about the book and Bible studies, the mission activities, the peace and justice initiatives and more that PW has to offer women in our church.

## **PW Is All About Mission**

2021 Ingathering - Due to COVID, monetary donations will be collected and distributed to selected organizations rather than our usual gathering of items. Details will be emailed to all PW with information about the organizations that will be supported. One InGathering recipient will be the Second Mile Center of Detroit, directed by Pastor Ruth Azar. Donate to the Ingathering by making a check out to First Presbyterian Women with "Ingathering" on the memo line. Drop it off at the Church Office or mail it to PW Treasurer Bonnie Hughes, 3520 Paisley Ct., Ann Arbor, MI 48105. Credit card donations may be made online at <https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/donate-to-presbyterian-women/>. Specify "Ingathering" and Second Mile Center in the comment section. Questions? Contact Joyce Himebaugh at [joycehimebaugh@gmail.com](mailto:joycehimebaugh@gmail.com) or Shelley Winters at [swinters3d@gmail.com](mailto:swinters3d@gmail.com)

**Haiti and Hope Clinic** - \$500 was donated to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Haiti earthquake relief and \$500 to Hope Clinic to support their focus on medical and dental care, food support, and Care + Prayer.

**PC(USA) Prayer Partners** - We continue to pray for Jeff and Christie Boyd, PC(USA) Prayer Partners based in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Jeff serves as Regional Liaison and Christi as Regional Facilitator for Women's and Children's Interests.



# FACILITIES

## FPC Tree Update

The Staff takes the First Presbyterian Church grounds seriously and wanted to update the Congregation on recent occurrences.

On Sept. 1, a substantial 10-inch-wide branch came down from a Honey Locust tree near Monteith Hall. Because there was no sign of disease and no high-wind situation, the branch is believed to have fallen from under its own weight. Due to its location near foot traffic and a liability risk, an arborist recommended that the tree be removed and it was on Sept. 2. This tree had earlier lost an eight-inch limb on July 22, 2019.

Earlier this summer, on Aug. 12, a Hickory tree close to the FPC Terrace fell. The oldest tree on the property, it was estimated to be 225 years old.

Facilities Manager Adrian Prundeanu responded to both situations quickly and was able to get lumberjacks in to remove fallen branches and trees within 24 hours – minimizing any disruption to the life of the Church. He later updated the Property Committee on the situation at its September meeting.

A “First Pres Tree Inventory” was created in 2018 after the Church had a “Tree Report Evaluation” made by arborist David L. Roberts, PhD from MSU. That list is updated when we remove or trim a significant part of a tree. Unfortunately, FPC has lost seven aging trees in the past three years. However, 70 mature trees remain on our 3.6-acre FPC property.

Nurturing trees from seedlings to full growth takes many years, but the Church is currently nursing a baby Oak. The Property Committee has discussed – and is considering – a larger tree nursery.



# FAITH IN ACTION

## LOCAL MISSION

### Thank you from SOS Community Services!

We thank First Presbyterian Church for your grant of \$7,500 for SOS's Rapid Rehousing program for helping families like Andrea's who are experiencing homelessness in our community.



Andrea entered SOS shelter with three children and a grandchild after her work hours were drastically cut. After an extensive search, a caseworker in SOS's Rapid Rehousing program helped Andrea find affordable housing in Ypsilanti. Andrea really wants and needs full-time work. SOS helped spruce up her resume and find job leads. With housing and food from SOS's pantry, Andrea can focus her energy on applying for jobs rather than wondering where the family will sleep, or where their next meal will come from.

Andrea landed an interview for a Medical Receptionist position but realized she did not have interview clothes. SOS helped her get professional clothing. She is anxiously waiting to hear back, but housing has given Andrea renewed hope and confidence. She is very motivated to find a better job so that she can support her family and maintain housing long-term. With your support, SOS ends homelessness for 104 families, including 224 children each year. You may visit our website ([www.soscs.org](http://www.soscs.org)) to learn more about how your gift makes a tangible difference for those in need."

Barbara Cecil, Development Director, SOS Community Services, Ypsilanti MI.

### Meals for the Homeless

Mercy House, located at **805 W. Huron Street in Ann Arbor**, is an oasis of hope for people experiencing homelessness, providing meals, showers, clothing and personal care items. We are looking for individuals who could prepare and drop off a meal for 20 people on Mondays or Wednesdays, with a 5:45pm drop-off at the house. Typically, one person provides the main dish, and another provides sides and dessert, but some do both. 13 x 9 aluminum pans work best, as they do not need to be returned and will be reused by the community. (They also accept grocery gift cards, in any amount, to buy the ingredients to prepare a meal.) If you are interested in helping out, please go to the following Sign Up Genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E44FAE22A2F49-mercy>. There you will find open dates as well as menu suggestions and a few other details. Questions? Please contact Sonia at [soniafrances55@gmail.com](mailto:soniafrances55@gmail.com).

### Supporting Refugees from Afghanistan

As we continue to pray for those impacted by the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan, we aim to live out the biblical call to welcome the stranger and demonstrate loving hospitality to those in need. As refugees arrive in the U.S. seeking resettlement and welcome, our church can play a part in offering care and love. We have begun conversations to partner with Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County, a local agency involved with resettlement efforts, and we will have more information soon about the ways we as a church can support our neighbors in need. If you are interested in getting involved with upcoming efforts, contact Resident Minister Hannah Lundberg, [hlundberg@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:hlundberg@firstpresbyterian.org).



# COMMITTEE NEWS

## Integrated Communications Committee Begins Work

Established by Session in July, the First Presbyterian Church's newly-formed Integrated Communications Committee conducted its inaugural meeting on Sept. 1.

Chaired by Elder Jennifer Day, the ICC will meet from 6-8 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month. Committee members include Ashley (Smith) Bowles, Mary Beth Evans, Bill Hall, Steve Holden, Sean Hoskins, Brent Ivey, Rol Kibler, Kelly Salchow MacArthur, Bryan Magnuson, Mark Newton and Olive Scott Rigotti, along with FPC Staff members J.P. DiMaggio, Rev. Evans McGowan and Allie Milot.

The ICC's expressed mission is to "recommend and implement strategies around external and internal communications, bringing cohesion and a comprehensive approach to all (of the Church's) media forms." One of the committee's first priorities is to review, update and transfer hosting of the FPC website.

## ONLINE GIVING

### Online Giving Page Has a New Look!

Beginning Sept. 15, those who prefer to give to First Pres electronically through the church website saw a new format. This new e-Giving format, along with our Vanco Mobile and Text to Give options are provided by Vanco Payment Solutions, LLC.

All of your current payment methods and donations in your online Vanco contribution account are still available when you log into the new-and-improved online payment page. It continues to allow you to give a one-time donation and to set-up recurring contributions.

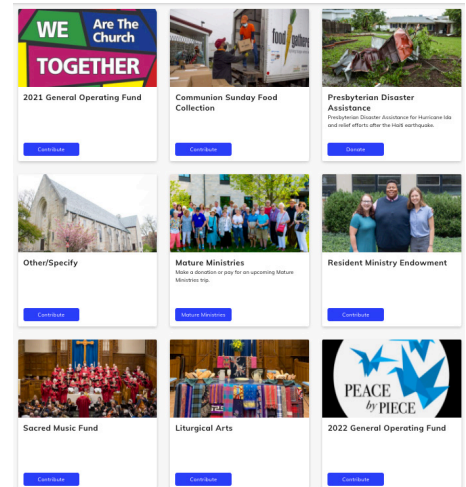
We currently have these funds available on the website:

- General Operating Fund 2021
- Communion Sunday Food Collection
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance - Hurricane Ida and/or Haiti earthquake
- Mature Ministries
- Resident Ministry Endowment
- Other/Specify - For any contributions or payments that are not listed you may always use this options and specify where your contribution/payment should be applied.

We will add the PCUSA Special Offerings and other special missions/ministries throughout the year to make it easier for you to support these programs.

We hope that you like the new format. As always, if you need any assistance or have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Anna Miller, Finance Manager, at 734.662.4466 ext. 344 or at [amiller@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:amiller@firstpresbyterian.org).

Thank you for supporting the ministry and mission of First Pres.



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