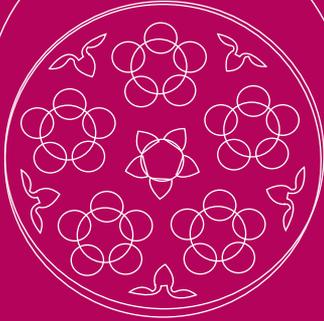




FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
Ann Arbor | Michigan



2021-2022 Mature Ministries



www.firstpresbyterian.org

The Mission ...

of Mature Ministries is to address the spiritual and social needs of the mature members of First Pres and the community.

Mature Ministries includes pastoral support and care, education and learning opportunities, fellowship and social activities, and facilitates service, mentoring, and mission outlets.



2021-2022 Programs

Mature Ministries Writing Groups

“Writing with a Spiritual Prompt”

Have you been yearning to find time and inspiration for creative writing? Yearn no more! Please join us the first Thursday of every month at 10:30 a.m. A prompt, a word or a phrase will be sent out prior to our meeting, and we will write in advance and then come and meet via Zoom to share and discuss our creations. Interested? Please contact Meg Brown at lmegbrown@gmail.com to join the group and receive the email addresses of all the members.

“When I Was Little”

“When I Was Little” is a small writing group for people who want to record some of their childhood stories for members of their family but never take the time to sit down and write. The group begins with a “story starter” line provided by the facilitator, Ginny Rezmierski. Each participant then writes on paper or on their laptop for one hour, in silence. If they wish, participants then take turns sharing their writing with the others. Normally meeting once per month at First Pres, October through May, the first Monday of each month, 10:00-11:30 a.m., members accomplish their writing, enjoy the fellowship, laugh or cry at old memories, and get to know each other in new and inspiring ways. Contact Ginny Rezmierski, ver@umich.edu, to see if Covid-19 restrictions mean the gathering will meet online.

Mature Ministries Lunch & Learn

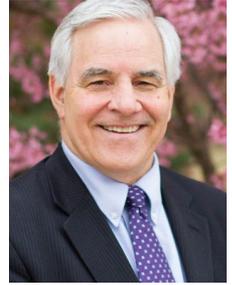
Due to fluctuations and uncertainties from the Covid-19 pandemic, our lectures will be held the second Thursday of the month at Noon either in-person or via Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5502657984>. For up-to-date information each month, sign up to be on the Mature Ministries email list by contacting Rev. Rogers.

October 14 (Sanctuary)

Ken Fischer, President Emeritus, University Musical Society

Everybody In, Nobody Out: Inspiring Community at Michigan's University Musical Society

Mature Ministries' Lunch & Learn welcomes 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. Books (\$20) will be sold and signed by Ken.

November 11 (Social Hall)

Joseph Cialdella, Senior Program Manager for Public Scholarship,
University of Michigan

Detroit's Green Roots: Three Moments in the Garden

Detroit is a surprisingly green place. Over the past 15 to 20 years, longtime residents of Detroit have grown a vibrant urban gardening and agriculture movement. Yet the story of Detroit's gardens goes back even farther. In this talk, author Joe Cialdella will draw on research from his award-winning book, *Motor City Green: A Century of Landscapes and Environmentalism in Detroit*, to share three moments the city's century long history of urban gardening environmental action. From Pingree's Potato Patches in the nineteenth century to African American yards during the twentieth century, Detroit's gardens and green spaces have helped residents meet subsistence needs, resist oppression, imagine a better city, and work toward justice.



December 9 (Online)

Bruce Ahlich, Vice President, Chair--Collections, Music House Museum, Acme, MI

Music without Musicians:

A Visit to the Music House Museum

A unique video tour will present a look at automated musical instruments, their history and development pre-radio and phonograph. To be presented is an overview of the museum's collection which includes music boxes, organettes, player and reproducing pianos, as well as some instruments used in commercial venues such as automated pianos, orchestrions and street and band organs. The video format will allow us to hear as well as see these remarkable creations.



January 13 (Online)

Emily Kutil, Assistant Professor, Architecture,
Lawrence Technological University

Reconstructing Detroit's Black Bottom Neighborhood

Detroit's Black Bottom neighborhood—the area in Detroit where Blacks were restricted to live in during much of the city's history—was destroyed as the interstate highway system cut through the city and racial unrest destroyed or compromised much of the area. Using historical photographs of the neighborhood, architect Emily Kutil created an exhibition that restored the neighborhood visually and drew former residents to visit, reconnect, and share stories of the vibrant life of this community.



February 10 (Sanctuary or Online: TBD)

Lucy Smith, Doctoral Student, Department of History, University of Michigan

Reconsidering History: The Case of George Washington's Teeth

A closer look at the objects that have come down to us through history can allow us to revisit familiar stories in a new light. Former Education Curator at Mount Vernon, Lucy Smith, offers a unique opportunity to expand our perception of colonial history through an examination of the president's wooden teeth—and the enslaved people who created them and allowed Washington to lead the life he enjoyed on his country estate. This presentation broadens and deepens our appreciation of what we should know about our history.



March 10 (Sanctuary or Online: TBD)

Will Sherry, Director, Spectrum Center, University of Michigan

Gender Identity and Expression: Foundational Concepts

Attendees will grow in their understanding of gender identity and expression terminology, learn more about the experiences of transgender and non-binary people, and gain approaches to building inclusive communities and spaces. Information about local and national resources and opportunities for ongoing learning will also be shared.



April 14 (Sanctuary)

Karen Wielinski, East Aurora, NY, freelance author, mother and grandmother, and cousin of Stacey Pakela. Author of *One on the Ground: A Story of Survival, Endurance and Continued Love*

One on the Ground: Life After Tragedy

February 12, 2009 was an ordinary evening at home for the Wielinski family of Clarence Center, New York. Karen said good night to her husband Doug as he left their family room. Minutes later her world and her home came tumbling down around her. This compelling memoir is the story of life before, during, and after an unthinkable tragedy. *One on the Ground* is Karen Wielinski's compelling memoir, based on her experiences resulting from the crash of Flight 3407 into her Clarence home. When her husband Doug died along with 50 passengers and crew he became identified as the "One on the Ground."



May 12 (Sanctuary)

Chris Weber, senior Vice President, National Geographic Studios

My Unexpected Career as a Television Producer for National Geographic

Chris Weber was born and raised in Ann Arbor and got her Bachelor of Science in pre-med from the University of Michigan. She headed to California to go to Grad School in Public Health, but a one-week temp job as a receptionist for National Geographic turned into a career in television. She moved to Washington, DC in 1987 to work at Nat Geo on EXPLORER and the Nat Geo Specials. Chris's shows won multiple awards including three Emmys and then she decided to become a mom with the help of an anonymous sperm donor. Chris moved into management so she could reduce travel and be with her son. She left Nat Geo in 2001 to establish and run a US office for a UK production company. Later, after executive positions at the Discovery Channel and Travel Channel, Chris returned to Nat Geo in 2016 where she is currently the Senior Vice President of National Geographic Studios. Christine, the daughter of Lois Jelneck, will talk about her unexpected career as a television producer for National Geographic.



June 9 (Sanctuary or Monteith Hall)

Linda Strodman, Assistant Professor Emerita of Nursing,
University of Michigan

Evan Mayday's "Good Death": Understanding Collaborative Care for End-of-Life Patients

In today's highly technological health care system, the hardest process that health care professionals often face with patients and families is when the trajectory of life-threatening illness shifts from a curative focus to that of providing comfort as the patient faces death. This presentation looks at how one care team and one family worked together to rise above their own concerns and fears to collectively grant a dying patient's last request for a "good death."





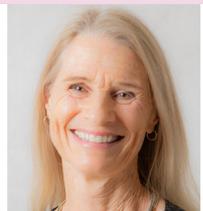
Questions about Mature Ministries? Contact...



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