

# The Missive

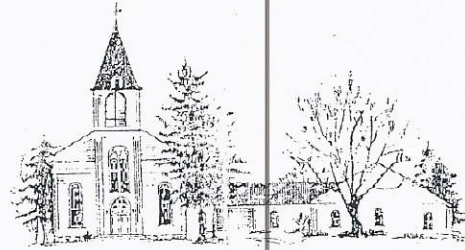
January 2014

## First Presbyterian Church

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269-731-2519 home

Volume 48, Number 1, Monthly



### *"Thanksgiving"*

*As the new year stretches ahead of us full of empty calendar pages, lots of us are taking time to make resolutions and plans for 2014. What are yours? Do you want to lose weight, read more books, spend more time with those you love, eat more vegetables, pray more faithfully? I think those are my resolutions every year. Do you have any that are specific to this year? What will be special or unique about 2014? For us we have our trip to Israel this month. We also have my mother's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in February. Our daughter Kendall will graduate from college in May. In July I will celebrate 30 years of ordained ministry.*



*As I am thinking about all these things to come, I am realizing that they are also reasons for looking back with thanksgiving. I know the Thanksgiving holiday was over six weeks ago, but New Year's should be a time not just to look at the empty calendar pages ahead of us but also to look back at those filled-in calendars from years past. When I do that I am filled with a sense of gratitude to God. I am grateful to have parents who are still healthy, with whom I can celebrate another birthday. I am grateful to have a daughter who is ready to graduate from college and embark on new adventures and that she has a mother and older siblings who love and support her all along her way (what a blessing it is to have children who are friends). I am grateful to God for calling me into ministry because since I have been ordained as a minister my life has been full of unexpected graces, predictable failures, work that I can't believe I get paid for, hair-pulling frustrations, and encounters with angels. And I am grateful for it all.*

*And I am grateful for you. I am grateful not just for your Christmas gift, which I am every year, but I am grateful for the spiritual fruits that I see growing in this congregation which makes it a joy to walk this journey with you. As we grow together I do see evidence of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness and the others. And if gratitude is not one of the fruits of the spirit, it should be. Because that is the one growing in me. I hope it grows in you too.*

*Grace and Peace,*

*Mark*

# January Volunteer Assignments

<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Coffee</u>	<u>Nursery Help</u>
5 Barts		Alexander Brignall	Alspach
12 Field	Inman	MacRitchie Bryant	Bryer
19 J & G Gibson	Saddler	Mandrell Carpenter	Odor
26 <u>VOLUNTEER?</u>	 A. Steele	Bryer Cazer	Urban

## Serving Communion

*Please remember that only ordained elders and deacons should serve communion.*

### January 5

Tunis Willemstyn  
Jilisa Williams  
Jerry Wittwer  
Lib Wittwer  
Irissa Wyckoff  
Teresa Young  
Phyllis Youse  
Marilyn Alman  
Andy Alspach

### February 2

Lynn Bakker  
Sandy Barts  
Jon Brignall  
Tina Brignall  
Heidi Bryant  
Mary Ellen Bryer  
Dave Butler  
Sam Butler  
Theresa Butler

### March 2

Ed Calkins  
Sandy Carahaly  
Sue Carlson  
Jane Carpenter  
Terry Carpenter  
Beth Carrington  
Mary Lou Cazars  
Judy Croasdale  
Carolyn Curtis

*We rely on many members and friends to help Sundays run smoothly and be a good worship experience for those attending our church. If for some reason you are not able to help on the day originally selected, please find a replacement or someone to trade with, and let the church office know. The yearly list of volunteers can be found at [www.fpcrich.com](http://www.fpcrich.com), under "Living the Faith", then "volunteer schedule". Or call Julie for a list of names. Thank you!*





**Please note the date change!!**

*The Annual Congregational Meeting  
will be held  
FEBRUARY 9th following worship.*

*The potluck is immediately afterward  
Please bring a dish to pass (meat will be provided)  
and table service.*



### Committee Chairpeople

You are so lucky this year!! You don't have to have your annual reports to the office until the middle of January!! Let's say January 12th. Give me a call if you need any help. Thank you!

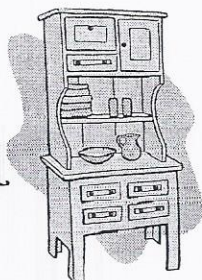
### WE AREN'T OUT OF THE WOODS YET!!

**LITTLE THINGS DO MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE! CAN YOU CONTINUE TO HELP THE CHURCH?**  
**THE CHURCH WISH LIST ~**

We'd like to continue being good stewards and curb our expenses on things, as we've done over the past couple years. The next time you're at Meijer, WalMart, Dollar General, Hardings, etc., can you pick up any of these items?

Stamps, tissue's, toilet paper, refill bottle of hand soap, ream of copy paper (white or colored), coffee, concentrated juice, package of cookies, sack of sugar, tall garbage bags, scotch tape, or any other item that we regularly use in the life of the church. Many have donated items already, and it's a GREAT help ~ especially if we all continue to do so. Just leave items in Julie's office, and thank you!!

**FOOD  
PANTRY  
CORNER**



**Shampoo and Conditioner, Soap, DO, Toothpaste,  
Laundry Soap and Fabric Softener, Feminine Products,  
Razors, Shaving Cream, etc. etc.**

# January 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  <i>Happy New Year!!</i>	2	3	4
5 9:45 Worship - Communion	6 4:00 Care Team 6:00 Boy Scouts	7 10:00 Connected Threads 1:30 Office Staff	8 7:00 Session	9 9:00 Bible Study 6:00 Deacons 7:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Cub Scouts	10 4:00 Scouts  Mark leaves for the Holy Land!!	11
12 9:45 Worship - 2 cents-a-meal 11:10 Sunday School 12:00 Youth Choir 12:30 Tribe	13 6:00 Boy Scouts	14 10:00 Connected Threads	15 7:00 Committee's Meet	16 9:00 Bible Study 7:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Cub Scouts	17 4:00 Scouts	18
19 9:45 Worship 11:10 Sunday School 12:00 Youth Choir 12:30 Tribe	20 4:00 Care Team 6:00 Boy Scouts	21 9:00 Women's Bible Study 10:00 Connected Threads 7:00 Women's Bible Study	22	23 9:00 Bible Study 7:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Cub Scouts	24 4:00 Scouts	25
26 9:45 Worship 11:10 Sunday School 12:00 Youth Choir 12:30 Tribe	27 6:00 Boy Scouts	28 10:00 Connected Threads	29	30 9:00 Bible Study 7:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Cub Pack Mtg.	31 4:00 Scouts	



# **Adult Christian Education**

**Special Guest Speaker - January 12, 11:10 AM**

## **Sara Morley LaCroix, Founder The Kalamazoo Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition**

The Kalamazoo Anti Human Trafficking Coalition, (KAHTC) is a community based volunteer organization created to fight the demand of human trafficking, raise the awareness of human trafficking and to uncover resources and assistance for human trafficking survivors all by collaborative efforts. Together with the Junior League of Kalamazoo, KAHTC advocates for legislation at the state level to benefit the anti-human trafficking cause in Michigan. KAHTC provides training to the education, medical, and law enforcement professionals who would be the most likely to come in contact with human trafficking victims, as well as training adolescents how to avoid being targeted by traffickers. Finally, they coordinate services for people coming out of a trafficking situation, working with organizations to provide housing, counseling, medical help and transition aid. <http://www.kahtc.org>

### **About Sara**

Sara, born in Saginaw, moved to Kalamazoo with her family in 2000 after her husband Tom, served 12 years in the U.S. Navy. Together they have raised four children. All have attended Kalamazoo Public Schools and benefit from the Promise. Sara served as the Navy Wives Club President in Idaho Falls, Idaho and an U. S. Naval Command Ombudsman while living in Washington State. Once settled in Kalamazoo Sara joined the Junior League of Kalamazoo and is in her 11th year of membership. She serves on the membership committee and is the Assistant Chair of the State Public Affairs Committee. Sara was made aware of the issue of human trafficking in 2009 when it was discussed at a Junior League meeting in Lansing. From that point on she has made it her priority to raise the awareness about human trafficking. In February of 2012 after attending a human trafficking conference in Grand Rapids she came back to Kalamazoo and started the conversation and the Kalamazoo Anti Human Trafficking Coalition was formed. Sara serves on the boards of Parents for Public Schools of Greater Kalamazoo, Morley Foundation, and is Assistant Chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee at the Greater Kalamazoo Association of Realtors.

# 2014 Greeter

## Usher

4 people for the same month

## Coffee

Jan.	5	Barts		Alexander, Brignall
	12	Field	Inman	MacRitchie, Bryant
	19	J & G Gibson	Saddler	Mandrell, Carpenter
	26	VOLUNTEER	A. Steele	Bryer, Cazer
Feb.	2	Howard	Langshaw	Butler, Simon
	9	Scouts	Carrington	Calkins, Kleis
	16	Knibloe	Crenshaw	Mack, Curtis
	23	Muss		Deater, Juodawlakis
Mar.	2	Teall		Fiordalis, Larson
	9	Schaadt	Kreinbring	D & J Fisher, Romyak
	16	Slezak	Knox	M & D Fisher, Gray
	23	Sorrell		R & A Gross, Trautman
	30	Hubbard		Greve, Rothenberg
Apr.	6	Gauthier	Polzin	LaLonde, Monk
	13	Hodgson	Brundage	Becker, Carlson
	20	Stasevich	Barton	Wank, Webb
	27	Steely		E & M Davis, Weigel
May	4	Gay		Wright, Young
	11	Mandrell	Stafford	Hart, Youse
	18	MacRitchie	Irey	Hittle, Muss
	25	Larson		Barts, Newell
June	1	Deater		Meitz, Lebiecki
	8	McConnell	Luscombe	Lindenberg, Nott
	15	Steele	Leiter	Alman, Bakker
	22	Lynch	Coverly	Fonger, Hutchinson
	29	Noall		B & B Jones, Kubiak
July	6	Bakker	Hubbard	Lynch, Noall
	13	B & B Jones	Nash	Rhodes, Stegink
	20	Martin	<b><u>1 VOLUNTEER</u></b>	Ruser, Thorne
	27	Fonger		Spengler, Howard
Aug.	3	F & P Davis		R, J, A, & J Steele
	10	Stegink	Wright	B & T Jones, J. Odar
	17	Thorne	Stubbs	Kendall, Petersen
	24	Ruser	<b><u>1 VOLUNTEER</u></b>	Knibloe, Carisalez
	31	Spengler		Pollock, Croasdale

**continued...**

Please note that we are still looking for only 4 more ushers to fill out the year! Thank you for thinking about doing this!

Also please note that I have run out of names to put down for coffee! I don't want to ask people to double up on coffee duty, so I'd appreciate volunteers for those dates with question marks. Thank you to everyone who's stepped up to ushering and helping me!

Julie



continued....

2014

## Greeter

## Usher

## Coffee

Sep. 7 Alexander  
14 Brignall  
21 Bryant  
28 Bryer

Clawson  
Dishon  
T. Vantine

Schaadt, ????????  
Keusch, ????????  
Slezak, ????????  
Sorrell, ????????



Oct. 5 Lovequist  
12 Calkins  
19 Carpenter  
26 Becker

3 Carahaly's  
D. Odar

Stasevich, ????????  
Stafford, ????????  
Steely, ????????  
Sunden, ????????

Nov. 2 Curtis  
9 E & M Davis  
16 Fiordalis  
23 Hooks  
30 Alspach

T & V Osborne  
Hart

Sutherland, Brundage, Barton  
C & J Gibson, ????????  
Urban, ????????  
Hubbard, ????????  
Lovequist, ????????

Dec. 7 Keusch  
14 Petersen  
21 Butler  
28 Remley

Dwoinen  
Mandrell  
**2 VOLUNTEER**

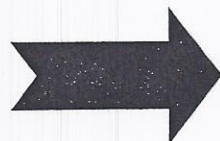
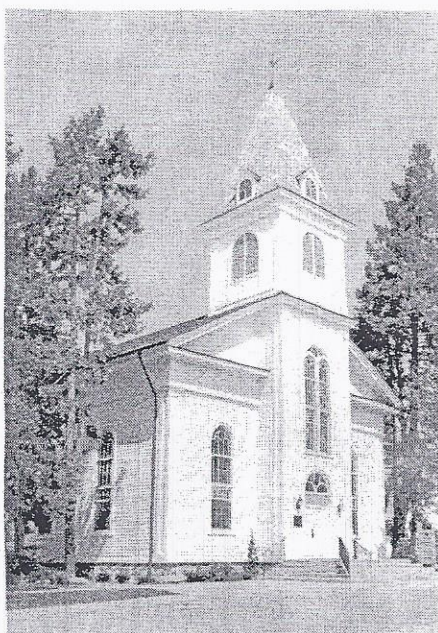
Willemstyn, ????????  
Williams, ????????  
Wittwer, ????????  
Wynsma, ????????

24

VOLUNTEER

5-6 VOLUNTEERS

Remember to keep this list of names throughout the year so  
that if you are not able to fulfill your assigned responsibility, you can call  
someone from the list to trade with, and then just let Julie know. Thanks!  
**ALSO, THIS LIST WILL BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE ~ [www.fpcrich.com](http://www.fpcrich.com)**  
and on the bulletin board above the water fountains.



**LOOK AT ALL  
THOSE QUESTION  
MARKS!!  
WE NEED PEOPLE  
TO HELP WITH  
ALL THESE DAYS,  
OR POSSIBLY  
FOREGO COFFEE  
HOUR!!**







# Presbyterian Women

*PW meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the church,  
No meetings in December & January. The next meeting is FEBRUARY 5th.  
EVERY WOMAN is welcome.*

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

### *Revelations*

We meet every third Tuesday at  
9:00 a.m. OR 7:00 p.m.  
We welcome any to join us!



**PW PURPOSE:** Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible Study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom.

# Money Matters

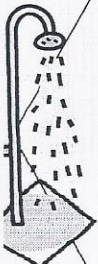
## PLEASE USE YOUR OFFERING ENVELOPES!



Regardless of whether you are giving cash OR check, please use your envelopes. When you don't use them, it creates three times as much paperwork for our Financial Secretary. All offering envelope boxes that haven't been picked up are on the table by Julie's office. Many thanks!

## Showers

Did you know the church has two showers downstairs in the White Room (under the sanctuary)? If for any reason you are without the use of your own facilities, please come to the church! They are to be used, so help yourself!

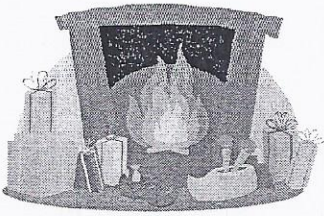


## .....AND SPEAKING OF ENVELOPES.....

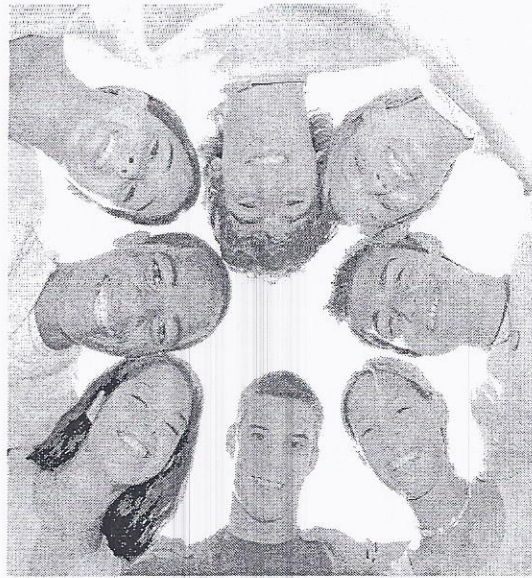
Make sure to look inside your offering box for a single blue envelope. This is for the PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT. If we all help pay the **\$25.27** due per member in your household, this will greatly assist in the HUGE expense for the church! Our membership is a little over 300, so the amount due to Presbytery is almost \$8000!

P.S. Dad, I got you covered :)





# January



# Tribe



**6th-8th Junior High  
9th-12th Senior High**

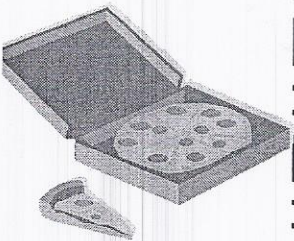
**UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, TRIBE BEGINS  
AT 12:00 WITH LUNCH AT THE CHURCH.**



It's been a very excellent Christmas and New  
Year holiday!!

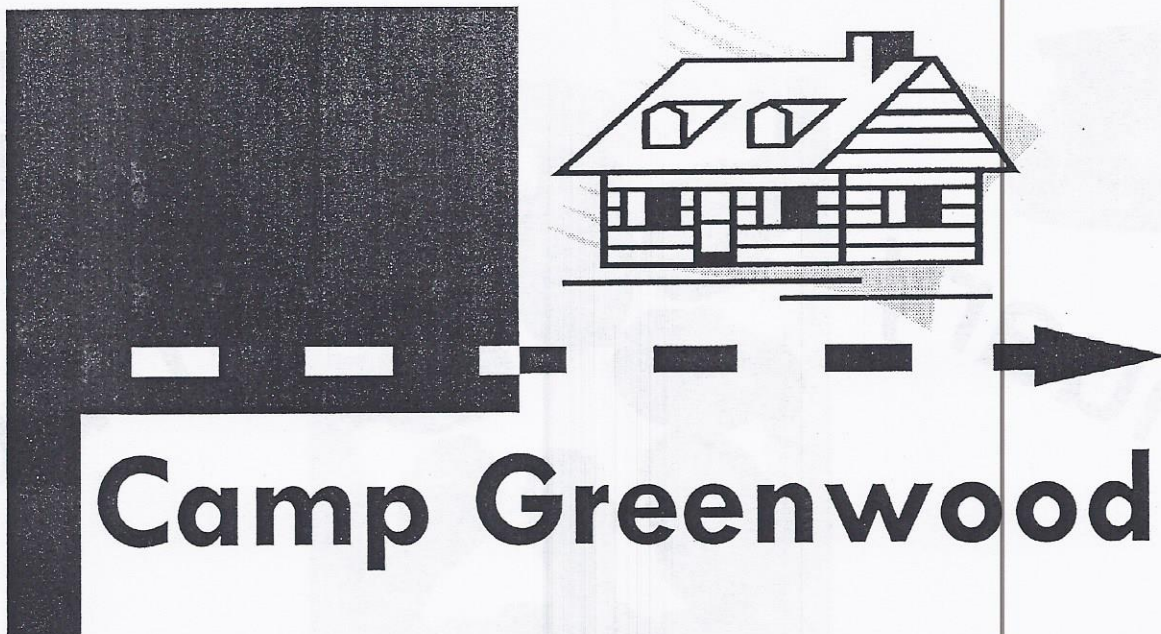
We most definitely will be having Tribe  
January 12th, 19th, and 26th!!

Keep watching your emails for what  
specifically we'll be doing!!



***Parents and friends, please remember to sign up for Tribe lunches!!  
We need to feed these wonderful kids before they go out and have FUN!!***





## Summer 2014 Schedule

June 15-20 Teen camp  
June 23-28 Mini Camps and Pathfinders  
July 6-11 Pathfinders and Trailblazers  
July 13-18 Trailblazers and Survivor Camps  
August 9-16 Family Camping (come for all  
or part)

Mini campers entering  
K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade

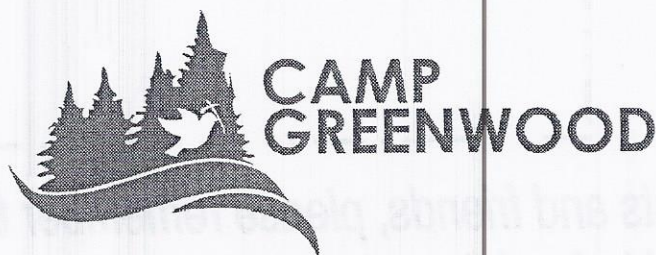
Pathfinders entering  
3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade

Trailblazers entering  
6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade

Survivor Camp  
entering 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade

Registration details will be  
available on the website early in  
December

Direct questions to Duane Skene  
[office@campgreenwood.org](mailto:office@campgreenwood.org) or  
call 616.754.7258





# January

## Anniversaries



- 5 Dave and Jennie MacQuarrie ~ 6 years  
 12 Mary and George Lindenberg ~ 34  
 22 Diane and Don Meitz ~ 59  
 24 Mark and Christy Connell ~ 33  
 26 Byron and Kay Hodgson ~ 46

## Birthdays

Tom Noall	1	Larry Ire	18
Deng Thon Alier	1	Austin McQuater	18
Brian Quada	2	Katie Miller	18
Logan Connell	3	Sandra Weigel	18
John Lebiecki	3	Teresa Young	18
Sue Myland	3	Dick Saddler	19
Andrew Howard	4	Chuck Farho	20
Sonja Acosta	4	Andy Kamerman	20
Rachel Gates	5	Greg Keusch	20
Erin Jennings	5	Laura Pausch	20
Adam Simon	5	Amy Syverson	20
Mark Stubbs	5	Denny Hoorn	22
Ben Weigel	5	Bob Morrow	23
Eric Coffman	6	Winnie Arends	24
Robert Delf	6	Christie Sutherland	24
Rebecca Gibson	6	Kristi Ryan	25
Robin Nott	6	Kelsey Saunders	25
Spencer Brignall	7	Jim Stallings	25
Mike Kilbourne	8	Darcy Wank	25
Ron Davis	9	Marlene McConnell	26
David Deater	12	Nick Reece	27
Clara Kreinbring	12	Bob Hess	28
Lillie Steele	12	Brian Scribner	28
Tunis Willemstyn	12	Paul Cazers	29
Cam Nicholson	13	Joyce Dishon	29
Brennen Wieber	13	Sandy Stupica	29
Nicole Ambrosio	14	Faith Fiordalis	30
Shannon Rench	15	Sue Higgs	30
Monty Blackburn	16	Marie Larson	30
Dave Damm	16	Sarah Larson	30
David Fox	16	Doug Lloyd	31
		Kim Knutsen	31

First Presbyterian Church  
8047 Church Street  
Richland, MI 49083

*ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED*

### **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF**

Dr. Mark W. Jennings, *Pastor*  
Murray Cooper, *Seminary Intern*  
Austin Wicks, *Youth Intern*  
Catherine Gibson, *Treasurer*  
Faith Fiordalis, *Financial Secretary*  
Samantha Gay, *Children's Worship Leader*  
Larry Myland, *Director of Music*  
Amanda Bistolfo, *Chancel Choir Director*  
Tara Steele, *Children's Choir*  
Heather Putt, *Nursery Staff*  
Carolyn Curtis, *Historian*  
Connie Slater, *Sexton*  
Julie Pixley, *Administrative Secretary*

