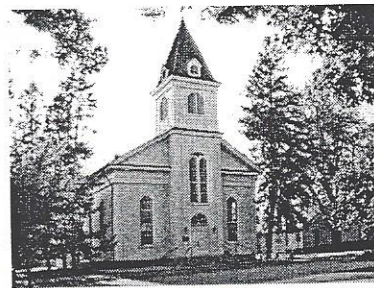


## First Presbyterian Church

8047 Church Street  
Richland, MI 49083  
269~629~4944  
269~629~4945 fax  
fpcrich@firstpresrichland.org  
www.fpcrich.com

Rev. Dr. Mark W. Jennings  
revmarkj@tds.net  
269~731~2519 home

Volume 49, Number 9, Monthly



### *"Congregational Challenge"*

*Last spring the High School Sunday School class challenged us as a church act on our faith for a week. They challenged us with "Meatless Monday" and "Wheatless Wednesday" and "Fruitless Friday" and so on. We then donated what we would have eaten those days (or the money we would have spent) to the Food Pantry. I would like to piggy-back on that idea and give us a challenge for the program year ahead.*

*The Letter to the Ephesians says that "each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift . . . to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." (4:8,12) Each one of us has been given gifts by God, but those gifts are specifically for building up the people of God. What is your gift? Perhaps you have gifts of art or music or perhaps you are good with people. Maybe you have a green thumb or you are good at fixing things. Maybe you like to have fun with kids or you are good at organization. All of us have gifts, but the question is really how are you using your gift? That's the Challenge that I have for each one of us. We are all called to use our gift to build up the church, the Body of Christ. I want to challenge you that using your gift for God's purposes is a primary way that we grow spiritually, that we grow into the people God intends us to be. For this program year, I challenge each one in our church to be using your gift in some way in addition to attending worship.*

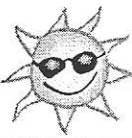
*What way will you use your gift? Will you serve on one of the committees or teams of the church? Do you want to see the church enhance its mission or our worship life? Do you want to help the team that gathers to do the routine maintenance around the church? Can you be the person who helps the youth by organizing meals (with the new format, that's only once a month or so)? Do you want to be part of the youth team? Do you want to be part of a Sunday School team? How about being on the rotation to help Heather in the nursery? Are you at home sitting at the sound board during worship, making sure my microphone is turned off while I am singing hymns way off key? Do you want to learn and be part of a Bible Study? Can you plant things without killing them, then maybe the Memorial Garden could use your gift?*

*Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> is Church Fest, our kickoff for the program year and our celebration of our ministry together. We will be having barbecue in the park again (those of you who have your church t-shirts, this is our Sunday to wear them!) but we will also have each of the committees and teams in the church set up in the Gull Prairie Room ready to talk with you about what they do and how your gift could work with them to build up our church.*

*God has blessed us as a church and blessed each one of us. But we are blessed so that we may be a blessing, to our church, to our community, to our world. That's why we have gifts. What's yours? And how are you going to use it this year?*

Grace and Peace,  
Mark

# September Volunteer Assignments

	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Coffee</u>	<u>Nursery Help</u>	<u>Teacher/Crafter</u>
6	Remley	Larson Lebiecki Stafford	Newell Carlson	Smith	
13	Hodgson	J Romyak Sunden K Inman	V Osborne Lindenberg	Deater	CHURCH FEST FUN
20	Volunteer??	Mack K Polzin Youse Brundage	LaLonde Pollock	Gauthier	<b>We Need</b>
27	Hooks	Monk C & P Gobble	Meitz J Johnson	Slezak	<b>Teachers!!</b> PLEASE THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU CAN DO!

## Serving Communion

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

### September 6

George Spengler  
Jennifer Spengler  
Jean Stafford  
Tara Steele  
Tom Stegink  
Ken Sunden  
Jerry Wittwer  
Lib Wittwer

### October 4

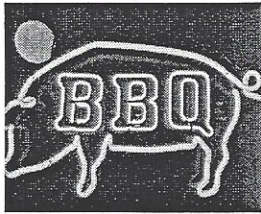
Andy Alspach  
Ron Teall  
Carol Thorne  
Andee Trautman  
Terry Vantine  
Cheryl Wank  
Darcy Wank  
Jilisa Williams  
Reid Williams

### November 1

Christie Sutherland  
Steve Sutherland  
Mike Wright  
Nancy Wright  
Brian Young  
Teresa Young  
Phyllis Youse  
Marilyn Alman  
Andy Alspach

*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!*





Contest

# CHURCH FEST 2015

Sunday, September 13

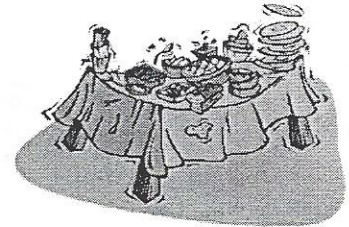
Worship \* 9:45  
11:00 \* Committee Fair & Kids Activities  
12:00 Potluck and BBQ Contest

What a great way to start the new season!! Please join us for worship, then be in the Gull Prairie Room as we learn about all the committees in the church, and how you can be part of any of them. The kids will have tons of things to do before lunch! Bring a side, salad, or dessert, and get ready to be full! We love you, and we want you with us!!

BBQ \* Games \* Potluck

\* Committee Fair \*

\* Fellowship \* Fun!!!



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## Session Update

The last Regular Meeting of Session was held on July 8 at 7:00 p.m.

**Pastor's Report** Session will hold an Open Forum on September 27 in the Gull Prairie Room to discuss the Presbytery and Church's changes regarding Marriage Policy. Staff/Officer Retreat will be held at RACC on August 30.

**Finance** Discussion of budget concerns. Letter to congregation outlining possible solutions.

**Personnel** *Session approved a motion to accept the changes made to the Personnel Policy effective upon distribution to all employees.* The search committee has been appointed to find a new adult choir director. Faye Luscombe will direct the choir on an interim basis.

**M&F** Planning first meal for VBS. September 13 is Church Fest.

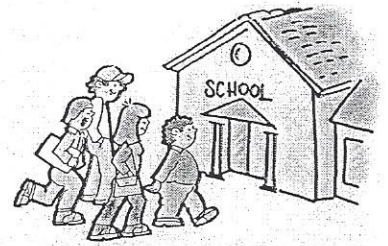
**C.E.** VBS is being planned. Volunteers are still needed. Adult Ed. classes are being planned for fall and spring.

**Property** No report

**Mission** Mission trip participants will be commissioned on July 19. Cost of Mission trip is covered and there are funds remaining for 300 hygiene kits. Crop Walk will be held in October.

Deacons, Elders and Staff met Sunday, August 30 at the Richland Area Community Center for their annual retreat. After a delicious lunch, the group gathered for devotions and discussion of our personal and collective church experience. The annual retreat is a refreshing time of fellowship, discussion and reflection.

# September 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:00 Connected Threads	2 1:00 PW Meeting	3	4	5
6 9:45 Worship - Com- munion	7 Labor Day	8 10:00 Connected Threads	9 8:00 Prayer Breakfast at Sherman Lake Y 7:00 Session 7:00 Cub Scouts	10 6:00 Deacons	11	12
13 9:45 Worship - 2 cents-a-meal 11:00 CHURCH FEST!! 11:00 Youth Group - part of Church Fest 12:00 Potluck BBQ	14 10:30 Office Staff 6:00 Boy Scouts	15 9:00 PW Church Cleaning 10:00 Connected Threads	16 7:00 Committee's Meet 7:00 Cub Scouts	17 9:00 Bible Study	18	19
20 9:45 Worship 11:10 Sunday School 5-7 Youth Group at Westminster Church	21 9:00 Care Team 10:30 Office Staff 6:00 Boy Scouts	22 9:00 Women's Bible Study 10:00 Connected Threads 7:00 Women's Bible Study	23 9:30 Flower Group in White Room	24 9:00 Bible Study	25	26
27 9:45 Worship 11:10 Sunday School 12:30 Youth Group at Bronson Walk/Run	28 10:30 Office Staff 6:00 Boy Scouts	29 10:00 Connected Threads	30			



*This and that....*

## NEW CHANCEL CHOIR MEMBERS ARE NEEDED AND WELCOMED

Do you like to sing? People with much, or NO experience levels will be most heartily welcome to join us! Keep your ears and eyes open for when the first day for rehearsal will be. We will have a great season! Join us!



**CAMP GREENWOOD** will be having their annual Fall Festival Weekend, October 2 - 4! Friday night is campfire and snack. Meals are offered all day Saturday, and Sunday breakfast. Activities on Saturday include camp tours to crafts to pioneer baking. Or enjoy the surrounding community. It's not just for kids! Mark your calendar, and look to [campgreenwood.org](http://campgreenwood.org).



## BIBLE STUDY

One of our favorite things will be starting up September 17th! If you want to learn a little, laugh a little, and even get snacks, this is for you. We're very casual and "bible-friendly". Every Thursday morning from 9 to 11.

## You're Invited to the CommUNITY Prayer Breakfast at Sherman Lake YMCA

Wednesday, Sept. 9th  
8:00 am to 9:30 am  
Sherman Lake YMCA  
in Kellogg Hall  
Tickets \$10 each



*Please join us to pray, sing and be inspired.  
Get your tickets at the front desk  
or call 269-731-3000*

**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Terri McFadden-Sieplinga**  
**"MOVED BY LOVE"**

Terri Ann McFadden-Sieplinga is the Executive Director of the Kalamazoo Deacons Conference where she enjoys sharing the love of Christ, empowering believers in ministry, meeting new people, and exchanging life experiences.

Behind Terri's ministry and her incredible passion for life is the amazing story of her survival, conversion, and grace. Terri's story reveals that God forgives, heals, and transforms life.

Also joining us will be speakers Russ Mawby, Macy Woolfe and Bobette Hampton, Pastor of Fresh Fire Church.



# Presbyterian Women

*PW meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the church,  
The next meeting is September 2nd. EVERY WOMAN is welcome.*

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We're starting our new lesson,

### "Come to the Water"

on September 22nd, but will continue every THIRD Tuesday of each month. Carol Cooper is the lady in charge, and will be offering two classes ~ 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. We'll meet each month in the church library, and the booklet is \$8.

We'll be studying the importance of water in the bible; from creation in Genesis to the River of Life in Revelation.

All women are most welcome for fellowship, fun and food. A sign-up sheet is in the Gull Prairie Room just waiting for YOUR name!



PLEASE NOTE THE DATE CHANGE!!

## DUST BUNNIES, BEWARE

The 2nd annual church cleaning is September 15th at 9:00 a.m. We could use some hand vacuums if you have them. Other cleaning supplies will be here! JOIN US!



## SAVE THE DATE

Presbyterian Women's 5th annual Tea will be Wednesday, October 7th at 6:30. Mark your calendars now. Come even if you don't drink tea!



## Fall Rummage Sale is Coming Soon - October 16 & 17

Now is a great time to begin cleaning out the garage, basement, closets, attic, family room, play room, etc. Set aside all of those reusable items from clothing to furniture you can't find a use for or that don't fit any more and save them for the PW Fall Rummage Sale. We **cannot** accept televisions and old computer monitors. We'll be open to collect your donations October 13-15. Mark your calendar now and save some time to help with the sale that week, especially on Friday and Saturday.

Paper grocery bags with handles are needed at the church for the Food Pantry and for the Rummage Sale.

**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.



NEW

*Sundays from 5-7pm*

NEW

## ***Youth Group***

***2015-2016***

***We are kicking off fall with some new and exciting changes to our Youth Group!***

We have joined forces with ***Westminster Presbyterian in Portage, Pine Island Presbyterian in Mattawan and First Presbyterian Kalamazoo*** to form an area wide youth group made up of Middle and High School youth.

The youth teams at all four churches will actively work together to plan and implement youth group, service activities, social hangouts, fellowship and mission trips. We believe very strongly that we can be better together and the increase in church participation will greatly encourage excitement and enthusiasm. We will rotate to the various churches on Sunday evenings with our own youth leader(s) always in attendance.

***All are welcome and guests are encouraged to attend!***

Contact Meredith Alspach with any questions: [mlt0002@yahoo.com](mailto:mlt0002@yahoo.com)

### ***Youth Group Schedule***

September 13 – Church Fest kick-off @ 11am HERE

September 20 – Youth Group kick-off @ Westminster 5-7pm

September 27 – WE host with service project at  
Bronson Children's Hospital Walk/Run

Excitement Zone 12:30-2:30

October 4 – First Pres Kalamazoo hosts 5-7pm

October 11 – Pine Island hosts 5-7pm



### Chancel Choir Director Search

Due to numerous postings, I'm sure you are aware that our Chancel Choir director of the past two years has graduated from WUM's outstanding choral program armed with a new master's degree in that great and inspiring art. Amanda has joyfully accepted a teaching position at the impressive Mater Dei (Mother of God) Catholic High School, in Santa Ana, California. She departed with our blessings and fondest wishes for good fortune.

Likewise, our children and youth choir director Tara Steele has resigned her position due to the demands of family and job after having served faithfully over the past several seasons. Please give Tara a well-deserved pat on the back when you see her at church or around town. We currently have one candidate to take up Tara's reins.

I began our Chancel Choir director search quietly in the spring, suspecting that Amanda would most likely move on. The position was posted on appropriate sites and I networked with a number of local pros. By early August we had only one resume in hand, so I contacted Kimberly Dunn Adams, WMU's professor of choral studies. Soon, we went from having one candidate to having a field of five candidates, one of which is especially promising. As I write this tonight I have good feelings that we will have a qualified director in place soon. In the meantime, Faye Luscombe has volunteered to step in, backed up by Maureen Lovequist, so we're in good hands.

If you haven't noticed, choir participation has fallen off over the last few years. We need YOU to lift your voice by joining the choir. We even have a new plan in the works that will maximize your contribution through minimizing the time you will have to put in. Why not join in!

### Village Green Arts

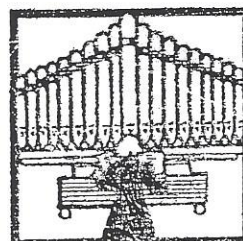
Village Green Arts started in 2000 with a "Carnegie Hall" performance by pianist Lori Sims. We were not air conditioned back then and the extremely humid conditions on that soggy, steam filled September day presented some of the worst conditions imaginable for a pianist to perform. Moreover, our Steinway hadn't been tuned due to a car accident involving the tuner on his way to the church. (It turned out that he was shaken, but OK.) Lori played anyway. Her performance was typical Sims: stunning.

Over the years we have presented many outstanding groups and soloists, all the way from Robin Nott's spontaneous story tellers, to Highland dancers, the Rich Ridenour-Barry Ross Duo, numerous choirs from around the state, a bell choir at Christmastime, even a highly stimulating ensemble consisting solely of percussionists. I guess we've produced at least 50 programs.

Currently we have two performances locked up: The West Michigan BrassWorks, a brass quintet, in a festive pre-holiday program on November 15. Then, in the spring, Cantus Femina, a women's chorus, on April 10, 2016. (I first heard Cantus Femina in a recording, and I was flabbergasted.)

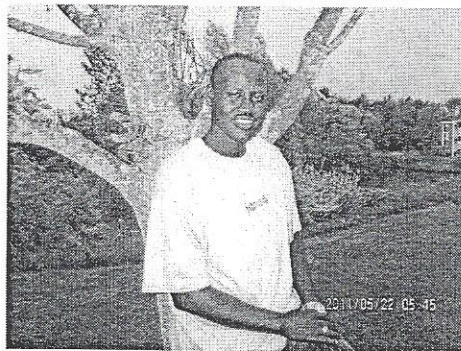
A third musical group is in the wings, but the summer doldrums have hamstrung negotiations.

Stay tuned.





## JOB SEARCH ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED FOR OUR MISSIONARY



As you know, Deng (Samuel) is outstanding in his field!

Seriously though, we have supported his missionary work in Africa (Sudan, South Sudan, and Kenya) for the past three years. Deng recently got married, is actively looking for job opportunities, and is considering coming back to this country. He is a US citizen.

Deng has a Bachelor's degree in Sociology (minor in Economics) from WMU and a Master's degree in Educational Ministries from Cornerstone University. He has strong interpersonal skills, works effectively in team situations, follows up diligently in administrative roles, has knowledge of organizational development, experience in program management and logistics, has conducted leadership training seminars, developed and led youth programs, taught Christian education classes, and filled in for pastors by writing and delivering sermons in churches in Africa. He has organized communities to plant gardens. They always feature his favorite vegetable – okra.

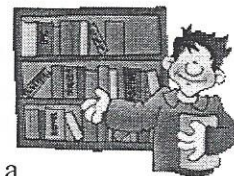
Please look at his letters in the Missionary Report section of this Missive. He is praying for our congregation's help with his next steps. If you have job or networking information, please contact Murray Cooper or pass the information to Murray through Julie in our church office.

**Many thanks for your prayers and your help!**

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### Family Resource Center / Church Library

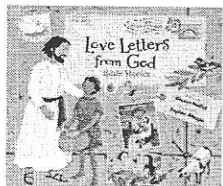
Did you know our church has a great Resource Center and Library? We have many Bible Study resources, Devotional books, Adult, Youth and Children's education helps, a section of biographies, fiction, and much more. A large section of children's books, videos and DVDs are also available. Books, videos and DVDs can be checked out by removing and signing the sign out card inside the back cover of each book and leaving it in the library. Take some time before or after church on Sundays, or any weekday to browse through our collection and check out a few books.



We also hope to have a book sale this fall as we have removed books for which we have multiple copies. Proceeds will support the Resource Center/Library fund.

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### AUTHOR TALK AND BOOK SIGNING



The Gull Lake United Methodist Church is hosting this fun event on September 10th at 9:30 a.m. Breakfast will be served, so please call 629-5137, so they can make a count. The book is "Love Letters from God - Bible Stories", written by Glenys Nellist and illustrated by Sophie Allsopp. Everyone is very welcome!

## **Missionary Update – First Richland Presbyterian Church Richland**

*NOTE: Deng is currently in Kenya with his new bride, his mother, and family. His current assignment with the hospital in South Sudan has ended. He is serving our Lord in Kenya as he looks to the future.*

Dear church family,

I am doing very well with my wife, mother and the siblings. I am still adjusting to Kenya weather and so far I am doing wonderfully. I am now helping mom with other responsibilities to relieve her a bit. Kids are in school and they will also help her after their last break in August.

I realize that missionary support has not been an easy job for you especially with the poor economy in the country. Your support for me and for my Ministry Mission is so appreciated. I am happy to provide information to you about my work.

To begin with, I am now in Bungoma, Western Kenya, with my wife, Mary, my mother, and the siblings. I came to Kenya on July 7<sup>th</sup> and I am planning to stay in Kenya until late September or early October of this year. In Bungoma, Kenya, there is a South Sudanese parish and we are members. I will be preaching whenever the pastor in charge asks me. Also, I will be involved in church activities as well as in the community of Bungoma. I may go back to South Sudan to volunteer at the Malek diocese in my home village or in Bor Town. I will search for a job while I am over there.

My contract with Partners in Compassionate Care (PCC) at Memorial Christian Hospital ended on July 1<sup>st</sup> this year. There is no assurance that they will renew my contract. I asked them to give me three months to be with my wife and the family at the end of my contract. Right now, I'm not sure if there will be a possibility to renew my contract due to financial concerns at Partners in Compassionate Care. If they do not renew my contract, I am ready to move on elsewhere in Bor, South Sudan or in America.

Moreover, I am still interested to work for a non-governmental organization (NGO) in South Sudan or in Africa. My ideal job is to work as Program Coordinator and my second-choice jobs are Administrator and Logistics Officer. I am also interested in other areas such as Healthcare Administration. When I decide to go to America, I would like to live where the living cost is not expensive. Michigan is my first choice but I am open to work in Indiana, Ohio, or in any other Mid-Western State. I am less interested to work in Washington DC area due to the high cost of living.

The security situation in South Sudan is unpredictable; therefore, I cannot speculate what the security situation would be in months to come, but I am hoping for peace to return to South Sudan soon. Without peace in the country, the citizens will continue suffering. Our people in South Sudan have endured many sufferings in the past and our politicians need to understand that. I am also open to working in Kenya, especially with an International NGO.



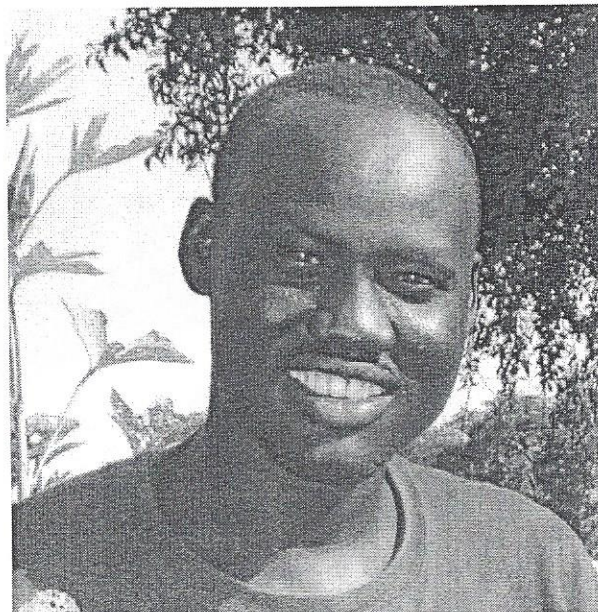
I want my wife to stay with my mother in Kenya until the right time comes for her to return to her parents. In our culture, the wife is returned back to her parents when she is pregnant during the 2-3 months before her delivery. Well, my wife is not pregnant now and I don't know when God is going to bless us with a child. I want you to put us in your prayers so that God can give us what we need. The last time I was in Kenya I didn't have much time with her but I am going to have enough time with my wife now and maybe God will bless us with a child. Let's wait for three months to see what God will do for us and then I will decide where I will live with her, especially when I get a job.

My mother is taking medications and she is doing fairly well. My middle sister is working in Juba, South Sudan. She is working full time as a Secretary for a Private Physician. I am proud of my sister, Mary Abuol, for her hard work. It is not easy these days to get a job in Juba. I heard that her boss is happy with Mary's work. My youngest sister is now with us at home. All of my sisters are now married. My oldest sister was married but that was not official until this year. Sorry for late information regarding to my sisters' marriages. Culturally, there are many things you may not understand when it comes to the Dinka culture. For instance, the marriage is not official until both parents agree upon it. My young brother is now in school. He expects to graduate from high school next year. I do not know what his plans are. Our hope is that he enrolls in college if we are satisfied with his results on the national exam

Again, I do appreciate all that you do for my family and me. My whole family appreciates the support they receive from the church family and their contributions toward my mission in order to help others and to spread the word of God in our country, South Sudan, or elsewhere.

Thank you and God will bless you ALL.

Blessings,  
Deng Thon Alier (Samuel)



8/25/2015 Update  
Dear Church Family,

I hope everybody is enjoying the summer. My family is doing fine. I am enjoying my time in Bungoma with my family. My wife is doing well.

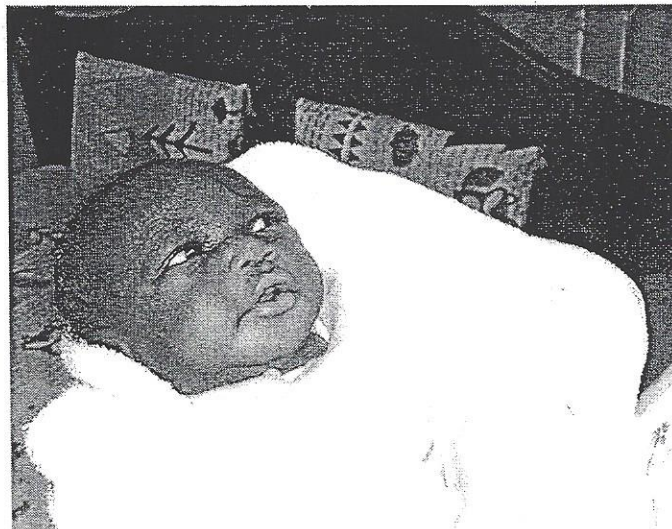
I preached at the South Sudanese parish in Bungoma once in August. Also, I have been volunteering in a South Sudanese Community that has relocated in Bungoma. They invite me to their meetings. Anytime they ask me to attend their gatherings, they give me an opportunity to participate. I have been mentoring Bungoma youth and some of them label me as their "role model."

I was invited to attend the United Nations Refugee Agency (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees – UNHCR) meeting this month with South Sudanese leaders in Bungoma. The UN staff conducted a one-day training session for refugees in Bungoma. UNHCR wants to know how many South Sudanese refugees are in Bungoma. They also want to know about the many challenges that they are facing in our community in Bungoma, especially with local authorities. Our meeting with the UN staff was fruitful in terms of things we learned in the training and we are going to share the ideas and outcomes of the meeting with our community.

As I mentioned in my previous update, I am interested in working in South Sudan or in the USA. There was one job in Lakes State in South Sudan that I was about to apply for. I changed my mind because there has been an on-going tribal conflict in Lake State. I will apply for a Resettlement Case Manager opening with Bethany Christian Services in Grand Rapids, Michigan. I know you have been praying for my job search and I want you to keep praying. God is great; He can make a miracle happen at any time.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support,  
Deng Thon Alier (Samuel)

*NOTE: Deng's sister, Deborah Achol Thon gave birth to a baby girl on August 18, 2015. Her name is Riak.*





# Relay For Life Wrap Up

First of all, I'd like to thank everyone who walked, went to a meeting for/with me, or just donated money to the American Cancer Society and this year's Relay for Life. I attended the Wrap Up meeting last week and can report that our church brought in **\$1772** of the over \$68,500 raised at the Richland Area Relay for Life! The goal for the Relay was \$85,000 and some donations are still trickling in, but it was a very good result for changing the length of time on the track and the rainy weather for the first few hours. The goal I set for our team was \$1000, so we almost doubled that!

We are already starting to plan and fundraise for next year. If you are a scrapbooker, there is a "Crop for a Cure" on October 3rd. The next leadership team meeting is Monday October 19th at 6 p.m. at the Richland Township building. And there are some other activities planned throughout the year leading up to the next Relay. When is that, you ask? Drumroll please... It will be **Saturday, June 18th from 8 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.** So, save the date and mark your calendars!

I am going to continue on the Leadership Team on the Survivor committee. I will work on the Survivor Ceremony and the dinner. I will not be continuing as the church team captain. Anyone interested in working as our church team captain, please contact me.

Love and Peace,

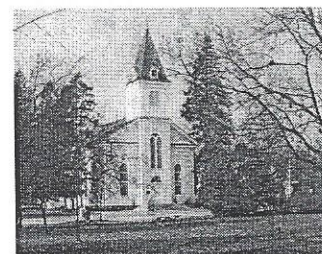
Debbie Sunden  
269-377-2392  
[kenanddebsunden@comcast.net](mailto:kenanddebsunden@comcast.net)



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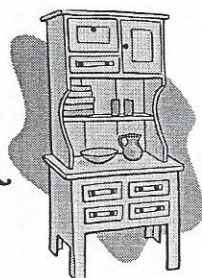
## *Carillon Hymns and Honoree's for September*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Selection</i>	<i>Honoree</i>
9/8	<i>In the Garden</i>	<i>Irene Verploegh</i>
9/11	<i>God Bless America</i>	<i>Brad Hoorn</i>
9/14	<i>Eternal Father, Strong to Save</i>	<i>Jay Ralph Wells, Jr.</i>



*WE THINK LIGHTENING STRUCK SOMETHING THAT'S NOT ENABLING THE CARILLON TO PLAY. HOPEFULLY IT WILL BE CORRECTED SOON!*

FOOD  
PANTRY  
CORNER



---

## FOOD PANTRY

Cold Cereal.....Frozen Meat.....Canned Peaches/Pears

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# Bronson Children's Hospital

## Run & Walk

### September 27

What a great and easy thing to do, to help raise money for Bronson Children's Hospital!

The long route = 3.1 miles, and the short route = 1 mile

Meet at the parking lot (corner of John and Lovell Sts.)

Rain or shine, it's happening! Strollers and dogs are welcome!

Day-of registration is 11:00-12:45

Children's activities, displays and exhibits—11:00-3:00

Run and Walk—1:00-2:30

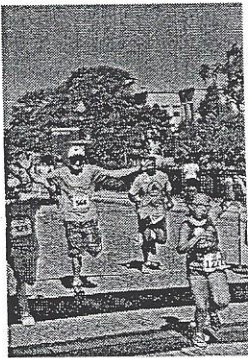
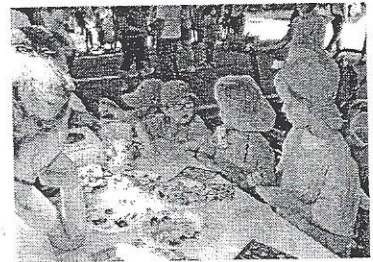
Post run and walk snacks—1:15-3:00

Awards-2:15

For online registration, visit [bronsonhealth.com/walkrun](http://bronsonhealth.com/walkrun)

Costs online are ~ 18+ = \$25; 6-17 = \$15; 5 & under = free, or \$10 with t-shirt

## Save The Date and Join!!







## RUN & WALK 2015

**11 a.m. – On-site registration, children's activities, displays & exhibits**

**1 p.m. – Run & Walk Begins**

Water Station & Restrooms available at West Michigan Cancer Center

**Long Route** = 3.1 miles

**Short Route** = 1 mile

To take the short route, go left on John St., right on Dutton St., left on Burdick St., left on Vine St., left on Jasper St., and left on Lovell St.

**1:15 – 3 p.m. – Post run & walk snacks and children's activities**

**2:15 p.m. – Awards**

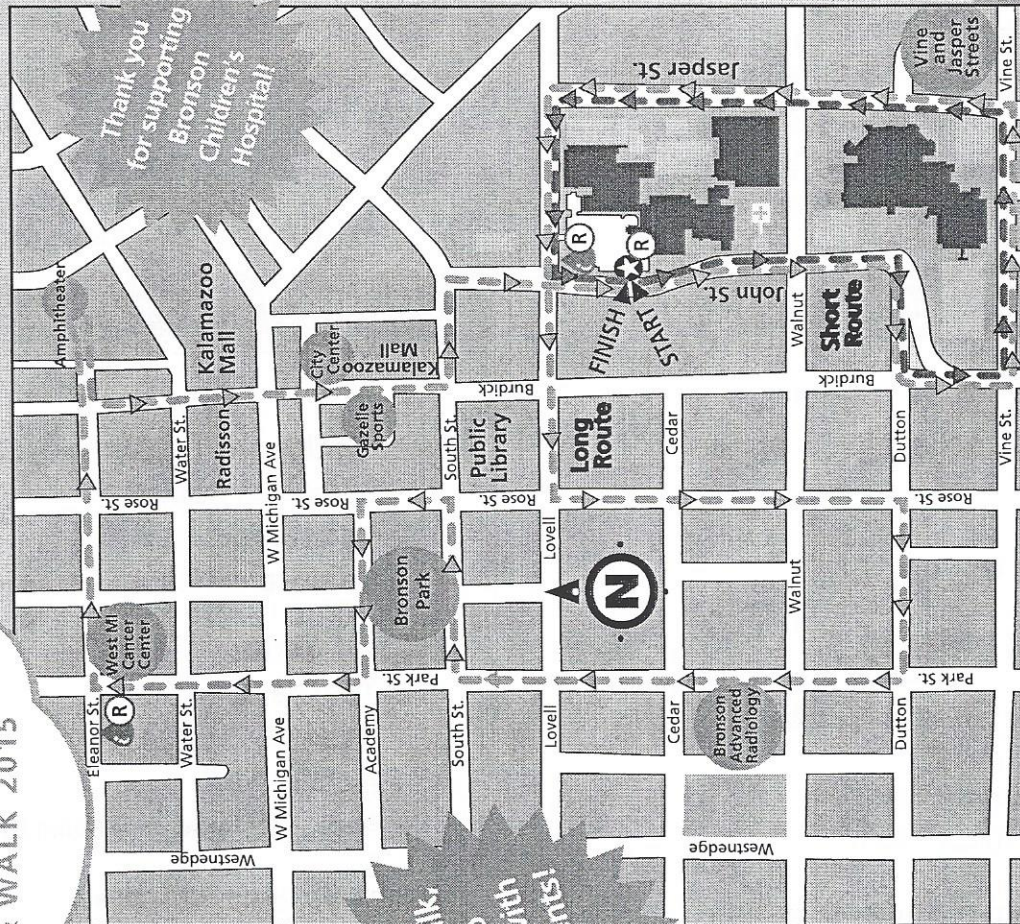
**Children's activities:**

- Jungle Joe's obstacle course (Starting at 1:15 p.m.)
- Tour an ambulance
- Make your own finger cast
- Bean bag toss
- Face painting
- And more!

Visit [bronsonhealth.com/runwalk](http://bronsonhealth.com/runwalk) for information and registration

Water Station

(R) Rest Area (Bathroom)



### Excitement Zones:

Bronson Advanced Radiology  
Bronson Park

Vine and Jasper Streets

West Michigan Cancer Center  
Amphitheater North of Arcadia Creek

Gazelle Sports City Centre





# Creating Confident Caregivers®

AN EMPOWERING, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR INDIVIDUALS CARING FOR A PERSON  
WITH MEMORY LOSS OR DEMENTIA



CREATING CONFIDENT CAREGIVERS®

## About the program -

Creating Confident Caregivers is a program for those caring for loved ones with dementia or memory loss. This unique, 6-week training uses the University tested Savvy Caregiver Program and provides participants with information and resources to better manage the stress of caregiving.

## What's In It For You?

Learn about -

- Dementia and its effects on the brain
- Caregiver resources
- Managing behaviors
- Improving caregiving skills
- How to handle everyday activities more easily
- Taking care of yourself to better care for your loved one



This program is supported, in part, by the US Adm. on Aging through its Alzheimer's Disease Supportive Services Program, (#90AE0322/0341) & the MI Aging & Adult Services Agency

## Testimonial -

*"After the first class, I felt a weight had been lifted. I learned so much. It's helpful to know what I'm experiencing is normal and I'm not alone."*

—Family Caregiver

## Respite Care -

Care for your family member with memory loss can be arranged so you may attend the sessions.

\*Ask for details when you register\*

## Classes Offered

**Place: Health and Community Services**

**3299 Gull Road**

**Kalamazoo, MI**

**Conference Room F (all dates except Nov. 10)**

**Days and Dates:**

**Tuesdays**

**Oct. 13, 20, 27,**

**Nov. 3, 17 &**

**Nov. 10 (Conference Room G)**

**Time: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

**Cost: Classes are free with donations accepted**

**For questions, or to register:**

**Patti Stratton, LMSW**

**(269) 373-5141**

**[psstra@kalcounty.com](mailto:psstra@kalcounty.com)**



Life isn't fair, but it's still good.  
 Your job won't take care of you when you  
 are sick; your friends and parents will: stay  
 in touch.  
 You don't have to win every argument;  
 agree to disagree.  
 Make peace with your past so it won't  
 screw up the present.  
 Don't compare your life to others; you have  
 no idea what their journey is all about.  
 Over prepare, and then go with the flow.  
 Be eccentric now; don't wait for old age to  
 wear purple.  
 Frame every so-called disaster with these  
 words: "In five years, will this even  
 matter?"  
 What other people think of you is none of  
 your business.  
 Your children only get one childhood.  
 If we threw our problems in a pile and saw  
 everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.  
 Envy is a waste of time. You already have all  
 you need.  
 No matter how you feel, get up, dress up  
 and show up.  
 Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a  
 gift.

-Regina Brett, 90 years old

#### INACTIVE CHRISTIANS?

A man once told a pastor of his desire  
 to become a member of the congregation.  
 "However," he said, "I'm very busy, so  
 please don't call on me for any committee  
 work, teaching a class, or singing in the  
 choir. Spare me from anything that would  
 take my time, and don't be surprised if  
 I'm not in worship very often."

The pastor thought for a moment and  
 then replied, "I believe you are at the  
 wrong church. The church you are looking  
 for is ten blocks down the street."

The man followed the pastor's direc-  
 tions and soon came to an abandoned,  
 boarded-up, closed church building. It  
 was a dead church -- gone out of business.

May each of us always be alive to the  
 ministry of the Lord's church. Remember,  
 lively Christians make churches which are  
 alive.

## THE POWER OF PRAYER

"In everything by prayer and supplication let your requests be made known to God.  
 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,  
 will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

—Philippians 4:6-7

\*\*\*\*\*

Could you, or someone you know, benefit from the power of prayer? Did you know that it is  
 as easy as picking up the phone to have your prayers multiplied by many caring members of  
 your church family? We invite you to give prayer requests to any member of the Prayer  
 Chain, who will pray for you or the person who needs God's help in a time of need.  
 The person you contact will pass your request on to the next person on the list until the  
 circle is complete. Be assured that we keep these matters in confidence.


We also invite others to join this circle of prayer.

Please note: participation is in no way restricted to women!!

If you are interested, or have questions, please contact Mark or Julie at the office, 629-4944.

### PRAYER CHAIN PARTICIPANTS

Marilyn Alman	623-2471	Joyce Hubbard	372-9205
Joan Willemstyn	344-1203	Phyllis Youse	731-4851
Cindi Lebiecki	344-0332	Joyce Gibson	671-5019
Diane Meitz	685-6272	Caroline Gray	629-9216

PRAYER  CHAIN



# The History of Labor Day



Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

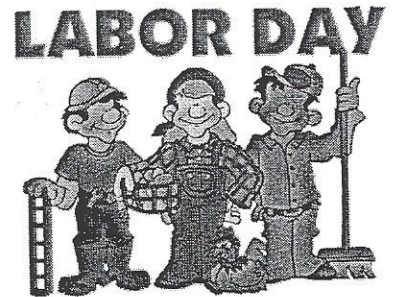
Two men are credited with playing an important role in bringing about the Labor Day holiday. Matthew Maguire, a machinist from Paterson, N.J., and Peter J. McGuire, a New York City carpenter who helped found the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, are said to have suggested a holiday to honor working people in the United States.

The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. In 1884, the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.

The first state bill was introduced into the New York legislature, but the first to become law was passed by Oregon on February 21, 1887. During the year four more states, Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York created the Labor Day holiday by legislative enactment. In 1894, President Grover Cleveland signed a bill making Labor Day a national holiday.

Labor Day is observed as a legal holiday on the first Monday in September throughout the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada. In Australia, Labor Day is called Eight Hour Day, and it commemorates the successful struggle for a shorter working day. In Europe, Labor Day is observed on May 1, also known as May Day.

Labor Day has come to be recognized in the U.S. not only as a celebration of the working class, but even more so as the unofficial end of the summer season. In the northern half of the country at least, the summer vacation season begins with Memorial Day and ends with Labor Day. Many colleges and some secondary and elementary schools begin classes immediately after Labor Day. State parks, swimming pools, and campgrounds are all quite busy on Labor Day, as vacationers take one last advantage of the waning hot season.





# September Anniversaries



- 2 Glenn and Marilyn Rhodes ~ 64
- 4 Lisa and Andy Ambrosio ~ 22
- 4 Ed and Cheri Calkins ~ 16
- 6 Lois and Verne Nafziger ~ 67
- 6 Alexis and Jason Rairigh ~ 7
- 7 Carolyn and Richard Chormann ~ 58
- 8 Brian and Teresa Young ~ 42
- 11 Mary Ellen and Jerry Bryer ~ 33
- 13 Dick and Ginny Gross ~ 63
- 14 Barbara and Robert Monk ~ 41
- 16 Sheryl and Brent Slezak ~ 37
- 18 John and Cindi Lebiecki ~ 33
- 19 Janet and Hoyt Fonger ~ 35
- 22 Tom and Sharin Noall ~ 53
- 24 Karen and Scott Bell ~ 32
- 25 Craig and Kathi Muss ~ 33
- 29 Larry and Becky Reinhart ~ 41



## and Birthdays

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Ruth Dwoinen        | 11 Kinzy Turpin       |
| 1 Dan Fiordalis       | 13 Alec Ambrosio      |
| 1 Doug Gates          | 13 Gary Mittelbach    |
| 1 Linnea Saffell      | 13 Nicole Romyak      |
| 2 Pam Mattes          | 13 Gale Slentz        |
| 3 Esperanza Carisalez | 14 Erin Fenner        |
| 3 Suzie Carpenter     | 14 Madeleine Gauthier |
| 3 Stephanie Kleis     | 14 Steve Sorrell      |
| 3 Heidi Bryant        | 16 Jake Myland        |
| 4 David Greve         | 16 Ted Ruser          |
| 5 Sue Carlson         | 17 Louise Hanavan     |
| 5 Sarah Bryer         | 17 Sandy Hart         |
| 5 Traver Gay          | 17 Ron Teall          |
| 5 Tom Perigo          | 18 Marme Courtney     |
| 6 Janet Saddler       | 19 Reid Williams      |
| 7 Christine Gates     | 20 Spencer Mack       |
| 7 Joseph Keusch       | 22 Val Osborne        |
| 8 Barbara Monk        | 23 John Mittelbach    |
| 8 Stuart Verseman     | 25 Bob Hendrick       |
| 9 Samantha Duke       | 25 Rebecca Jones      |
| 9 Katie Monk          | 25 Don Meitz          |
| 10 Cindy Hoorn        | 25 Andee Trautman     |
| 11 Murray Cooper      | 29 Pat Morrissey      |



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*  
Faith Fiordalis, *Financial Secretary*  
Gretchen Ferris, *Treasurer*  
Larry Myland, *Director of Music*  
                    , *Chancel Choir Director*  
Maureen Lovequist, *Chancel Choir Accompanist*  
                            , *Children's Choir*  
Samantha Gay, *Children's Worship Leader*  
Alanna Wyckoff and Allie Steele, *Children's Worship Helpers*  
Heather Putt, *Nursery Supervisor*  
Connie Slater, *Sexton*  
Julie Pixley, *Administrative Secretary*

