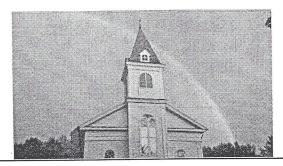
The Missive May 2018

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 52, Number 5, Monthly



"The Living Years"

This is my first day back in the office after our trip to North Carolina (many thanks to Erin Hill-Van Horne for filling in for me. She's terrific!). Most of you know by now that we had to make a trip to Wilmington, NC because Erin's father passed away. It is always hard saying farewell to one whom you have loved but it was a joyful time to spend with our children and nieces and nephews who gathered for the funeral. As Erin and I drove back to Michigan, we had a lot of time to talk, but also a lot of time to listen to the radio. As we drove up our street, the last song we heard before arriving home was an old favorite of mine by Mike and the Mechanics called "The Living Years." The last verse and the chorus go like this:

I wasn't there that morning
When my Father passed away
I didn't get to tell him
All the things I had to say
I think I caught his spirit
Later that same year
I'm sure I heard his echo
In my baby's new born tears
I just wish I could have told him in the living years

Say it loud, say it clear (oh say it clear) You can listen as well as you hear It's too late when we die To admit we don't see eye to eye

Of course it's a song about a son who wishes that he had told his father all that was on his mind and heart before his father passed away. We are forever grateful that Erin had a wonderful week with her dad and stepmother a few weeks before he passed, but

how often do we get that in our lives? How many of our loved ones pass away with things unsaid or unheard by those most important to them?

One of the great joys of our faith is that when we gather for a funeral or memorial service, we are not saying "goodbye," but just "farewell for now." For we do believe in the resurrection to eternal life and in that grand reunion in the life to come. But that should relieve us of the responsibility to speak with honesty and love to one another while we have the chance in this life. This life is where we learn to build the relationships that will last into the next life with God and with one another. We don't have to agree on everything, we don't have to see "eye to eye." But we do have to love one another. And I think it's best to open ourselves to love each other in this world.

Grace and Peace,

Mark

May Volunteer Assignments

	Greeters	<u>Ushers</u>	Coffee	Nursery Help	Teachers	
6	Odell	Coverly Odell VOLUNTEER	Alexander L Lindenberg	Smith	Putt Osborne	
13	Wittwer	Rothenberg Schaadt	Carisalez Meitz	Stafford	MAPPY & MOTHERS	
20	Hodgson	G&M Lindenberg Kendall	Foster Sutherland	Gauthier		
27	Field	3 Carahaly's Field	Lovequist Vantine	Stafford	** Hassy ** Memoral	

Serving Communion

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

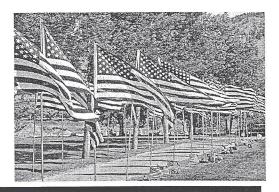
May 6
Anna Gross
Rod Gross
Marv Hoekstra
Kay Irey
Larry Irey
Cindi Lebiecki
Ruth Mason
Diane Meitz
Jack Sizer

June 3
Pete Knibloe
Nancy Remley
Gene Rothenberg
Sharon Rothenberg
Judy Ruser
Dick Saddler
Ed Schaadt
Ronda Schaadt
Marilynn Simon
·

July 1
Brent Slezak
Sheryl Slezak
Shannon Smith
George Spengler
Jennifer Spengler
Jean Stafford
Christie Sutherland
Steve Sutherland
the state of the s

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, under "Living the Faith", then "volunteer schedule". Or call Julie for a list of names. Thank you!

May 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:00 - 8:00 RUMMAGE SET UP 10:00 Connected Threads 6:00 Girl Scouts	2 10:00 - 8:00 RUMMAGE SET UP 1:00 PW Meeting 4:30 Girl Scouts	9:00 Bible Study 10:00 - 8:00 RUMMAGE SET UP 12:00 Lunch Bunch at St. Timothy's 4:00 Chancel Choir	4 9:00-3:00, 5:00-7:00 RUMMAGE SALE	5 9:00-11:00 RUMMAGE SALE
6 8:30 Chancel Choir 9:00 Youth Group at Westminster 9:45 Worship - Com- munion 11:00 Sunday School	7 9:00 Care Team 10:30 Office Staff 7:00 Boy Scouts	8 10:00 Connected Threads 6:00 Girl Scouts 6:30-9:00 Richland Library Program: Jack Lessenberry, in Sanctuary	9 4:30 Girl Scouts 6:00 Session	10 9:00 Bible Study 4:00 Chancel Choir 6:00 Deacons	11	12 11:00 Memorial Service for Marcia Sizer, and luncheon
13 8:30 Chancel Choir 9:45 Worship - 2 cents-a-meal Happy Mother's Day!	14 10:30 Office Staff 7:00 Boy Scouts	15 10:00 Connected Threads 6:00 Girl Scouts	16 4:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Cub Leaders 7:00 Boy Scout Leaders	17 9:00 Bible Study 4:00 Chancel Choir Shhhhhit's Larry's birthday. Don't tell him I told you!	18 5:30 Kids-n-boxes spending the night in the Park	19 3:30 Jack & Jill using GPR if it's raining
20 8:30 Chancel Choir 9:00 Youth Group at Kal. 1st 9:45 Worship 11:00 Sunday School Pentecost Sunday	21 9:00 Care Team 10:30 Office Staff 7:00 Boy Scouts	22 10:00 Connected Threads 6:00 Girl Scouts	9:30 Flower Group in White Room 4:30 Girl Scouts	9:00 Bible Study 4:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 Cub Pack Mtg.	25	26
27 8:00 Chancel Choir 9:45 Worship	28 Memorial Day	29 7:00 & 8:00 Men's Breakfast at Liz's 10:00 Connected Threads 10:30 Office Staff 6:00 Girl Scouts	30 4:30 Girl Scouts	31 9:00 Bible Study		



Presbyterian Women

PW meets the first Wednesday of each month.

Our next meeting is May 2nd at 1:00

EVERY WOMAN is welcome!



High School and College Graduates!

We'd love to get a picture of you so we can show you off in the display case!

If you have an extra photo, please leave it in Julie's office or box.

A namecard and school announcement would be nice too!

Thank you.



Membership & Fellowship Committee

RECOGNITION SUNDAY PICNIC!!

June 10 * following worship

Our end-of-the-season Sunday will be a busy day, with worship followed by the picnic!! Membership and Fellowship will be supplying pulled pork and drinks.

If everyone would please bring their favorite side dish, salad, or dessert, the rest of us who will be eating it would be grateful! Although we'll have some extras if needed, please also bring your own tableware.



We'll have activities for the kids right after worship, while the picnic gets set up. Really all we have to do now is keep fingers crossed for sunshine! Hope to see you on this glorious Recognition Sunday!

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.

Open up the attic, break thru the basement ...









As a place to unload your unwanted (but still good) items, don't forget our Rummage Sale, which will take place



May 4th, 9 to 3 and 5 to 7, and May 5th, 9 to 11:00.

Set up is Monday evening, May 1st, and your contributions can be brought any day after that, through Thursday! The sign-up sheet for workers will be posted on the bulletin board in the Gull Prairie Room on the PW section.





We'll need people to sort and price all week. The sale begins Friday morning, so we need salespeople here at 8:30 a.m. to greet our line-up of customers. On Friday evening and Saturday morning, the cost for whatever can be stuffed into a grocery bag, is \$2 and \$1, respectively.

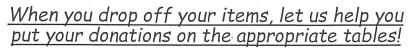


A crew of workers can come in about 11:00 Saturday morning to help dismantle the sale and pack up the unsold goods (we really need help with this part).



SET-UP AND BRING IN TIMES:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday ~ 10 to 5 & 6 to 8





PLEASE: No TV's - No Computer Screens - No Car Seats - No Sofabeds







FUN WITH FINANCE!

For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. Song of Solomon 2:11-12



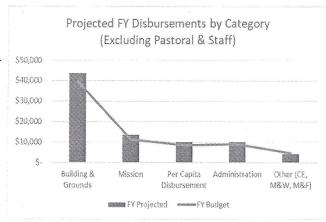
I am watching the ice fall on the afternoon of April 15 as I prepare this update. Hopefully, this scripture will ring true by the time the May issue of the Missive is published. We are ready for flowers and singing! Not too sure about those turtle doves, though... this is Michigan, after all. Mourning doves will have to do. Tweet!

March, 2018 year-to-date General Fund receipts were \$86K, compared to disbursements of \$77K, leaving year-to-date receipts in excess of disbursements of \$9K. This is right in line with our budget for the first quarter of the year. First quarter giving to Designated funds was \$16K.

As you might expect, our second largest expenditure category (after pastoral and staff salaries) is Property, Building and Grounds. This budget bucket encompasses utilities, insurance, building and equipment maintenance and grounds care. Because Old Man Winter was determined to hang around longer than he was welcome, our expenditures for utilities and snow/ice removal were higher than budgeted in the first quarter, and also higher than in 2017.

Full year projections based on first quarter actuals and remainder-of-year budgets are showing a slight deficit of roughly \$2000. Projected full year expenditures vs. budget by category are reflected in the chart at the right.

One easy way to help offset the projected deficit is to be sure to pay your Per Capita Apportionment for 2018. Historically, we only receive in about 40% of what we pay out for this line item; the balance comes out of General Fund contributions, specifically, from the



Mission budget bucket. If everyone were to pay their Per Capita Apportionment (\$28.98 per member for 2018), we could save almost \$5K in General Fund expenditures! Be sure to use the blue envelope in your offering box, or write "Per Capita" on your check, so Faith is able to record your contribution properly.

Thank you! And have faith - summer is coming!

Do you have questions about church Finance? Just ask! We will do our best to answer all questions here or in the Friday Finance FAQ! Sandy Carahaly & Pete Knibloe, Elders, Finance Committee





Our Chancel Choir director, and former children's and youth choir director, Sadarra Fields, has resigned with regret. She started here on September 27, 2015 and has been a congenial, supportive, productive and expert staff member.

Our former choir director at the time, Amanda Bistolfo, had just resigned upon her WMU graduation in order to accept a music-teaching position in California. Dr. Kimberly Dunn Adams, WMU's choral music head, had helped us find Amanda, and she came to our assistance once again when she recommended Sadarra. She was an ideal candidate.

It didn't take long for us to warm to Sadarra and for her to fall for this church. That's the main reason that she stayed on with us after she landed her first job as a music teacher in the Detroit-area's Winans Academy of Performing Arts. This was shortly after she graduated from the music department at Western Michigan University.

So, yes, for the last couple of years Sadarra has commuted from Detroit every Sunday in order to be here to direct the choir. Occasionally she has stayed at her parent's home, in Lansing, to shorten her early morning Sunday drive, but most of the time she drives straight from Detroit. This commitment has taken its toll on Sadarra both professionally and socially. Her last Sunday here will be on Trinity Sunday, May 27, two years and eight months from the day she started.

In addition to her teaching responsibilities at Winans, Sadarra is also a member of the renown Brazeal Dennard Chorale, an internationally known choral group whose membership is via audition. Recently, she also soloed with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in Undine Smith Morre's "Scenes from the Life of a Martyr."

Godspeed, Sadarra.

We expect you to stop by whenever you're in the neighborhood.





The Worship and Music Committee, working with the Personnel Committee is looking for a Chancel Choir Director, to begin in the Fall.

If you, or someone you know, might have an interest in this position, please contact Larry Myland or Mark Jennings, NO LATER THAN MAY 10th.

Thank you

Presbyterian Women ~ Birthday Offering May 6th

In 1922, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Woman's Auxiliary (PCUS), it was decided that an offering should be made for a definite cause. That year, Hallie Paxson Winsborough, superintendent of women's work, visited Miss Dowd's School for Girls in Kochi, Japan. She challenged members of the Woman's Auxiliary to give one penny for each year of their lives (or a dollar if a woman preferred not to reveal her age) as a birthday gift to the school. The tradition continued when the Woman's Auxiliary became Presbyterian Women (PCUSA) in 1988. The offerings have enabled a long succession of new and often innovative mission projects throughout the world.

While the projects and donation amounts have changed, Presbyterian Women's commitment to improving the lives of others has not. We continue to need broad, consistent support from Presbyterian women, men and others in the area in order to continue funding mission projects like the ones selected for 2018.

Cottage Village, a Tiny-house Community for Low-income Residents Cottage Grove, Oregon Cottage Village will provide quality, affordable housing and a safe, structured social community for individuals and families with low or very low incomes. This Birthday Offering grant will be used to help build 13 tiny houses and a central shared-use area that will serve as a compassionate and protective community for vulnerable rural citizens.

Village of Grace Center for Physical and Spiritual Health Tegucigalpa, Honduras

This Birthday Offering grant will make it possible for the Presbytery of Honduras to purchase the Village of Grace Center for Physical and Spiritual Health near Tegucigalpa. Originally established by Presbyterian mission co-workers, the retreat center will be managed by Presbyterian women in Honduras. It will offer international hospitality for retreats, workshops and mission teams from the PC(USA), Solar Under the Sun and Living Waters for the World.

The Dwelling Place Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota

The Dwelling Place was established in 1998 to provide for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of women and their children following their escape from a violent partner. Transitional housing, education, food, clothing, trauma-informed support services, programming and mentoring for women are all part of the mission of The Dwelling Place. This Birthday Offering grant will help The Dwelling Place purchase a vacant lot where they will construct a multi-use building with spaces suitable for large and small group programming, one-on-one case management, safe living space and staff offices. With the additional building, The Dwelling Place will be able to serve even more women and children who are seeking safety.

Please give as you have been blessed and support these life-changing projects. Feel free to hand in the enclosed envelope, or we will receive the PW Birthday Offering in church, on <u>May 6th</u>. An offering envelope will be in the bulletin that day. Or leave your gift on Julie's desk, marked Birthday Offering. Thank you!

Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16





Pentecost Offering

At Pentecost, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit as a bringer of new life. Because of the Spirit's coming, we no longer need to settle for "business as usual" but can know the transforming and creative love of God that makes the impossible possible. Through our participation in the Pentecost Offering, we manifest that transforming love to youth and young adults and help make things possible for children at risk.



The Pentecost Offering is one of the four annual churchwide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Through Pentecost Offering receipts, we minister to children at risk. We assist in guiding and nurturing the faith of Presbyterian young people. We call forth a new generation of leadership in mission service through the National and International Young Adult Volunteer Program.

Forty percent of the offering receipts remain in our congregation to address the needs of children at risk. The remainder of the offering receipts will be sent to the General Assembly to support programs that benefit children at risk and ministries with youth and young adults.

The Pentecost Offering is a tangible way to demonstrate that Spirit within us! It gives us the opportunity to use 40% of the amount we receive to minister in our own community on behalf of children at risk. Through General Assembly ministries, the Pentecost Offering supports, guides, and nurtures the faith of the Presbyterian young people, calls forth a new generation of church leadership, and advocates for children at risk on a national level.

We will be receiving this offering on May 20th during worship, or you can send the church your gift, noting "Pentecost" on the memo line. You can also visit www.presbyterianmission.org/give/pentecost for information or to give online.

Thank you for your much needed support.

The Library/Family Resource Center

The CE Committee is working on a book trading section in the Library. It will work just as it does on cruise ships and hotels. If you spot an interesting book or periodical, you may take it home. To keep our shelves stocked we only ask you return it, or keep it, pass it to a friend, and return another book(s). Any time you donate a book(s) you may take another to do with as you please. The process will be totally unsupervised.

We all have a few cherished books which we wish to keep, but most of us have shelves of books which we will never read again, so why not share and save time and money?

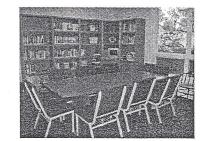
What books to donate? Fiction and non-fiction, best sellers and classics, religious and secular. The only standard is that the book must have some quality which makes it worth reading, so if your Aunt Dottie gave you Fifty Shades of Gray for Christmas — no thanks!

We also can share periodicals; we need not all subscribe to National Geographic, Smithsonian, Scientific American, Atlantic, Harper's, Mother Jones or New Republic, and dozens of others. Unlike news magazines, these have a longer useful life. You may have cut back your subscriptions because you receive more than you read in a month. Sharing would provide access without the expense.

The original library will operate normally.

Contact one of the CE elders (Sandra Gobble, Shannon Smith, Marv Hoekstra), or Mark with comments. Drop off your reading materials in Julie's office, or the library, and label them "book trade".

The Christian Education Committee



Youth Group



May 18-19 is KIDS IN BOXES!



The youth are heading to West Virginia and need your help!

- ✓ Invest in their mission
- ✓ Invest in their spiritual growth
- ✓ Invest in their desire to serve

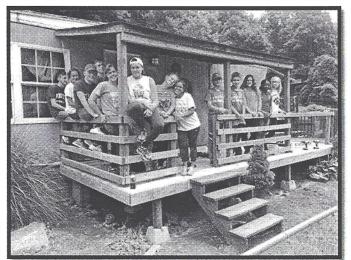
Please consider making a donation to the Youth Mission Fund in support of Chase, Val, Blake, Jeni and Rebecca.

Along with your investment, please consider writing a note for the youth to open during their week in West Virginia:

- ❖ What I hope to see you do...
- What I hope to see happen...
- ❖ What I hope you get out of the trip...
- Why I know you're worth investing in...

INVEST IN YOUTH



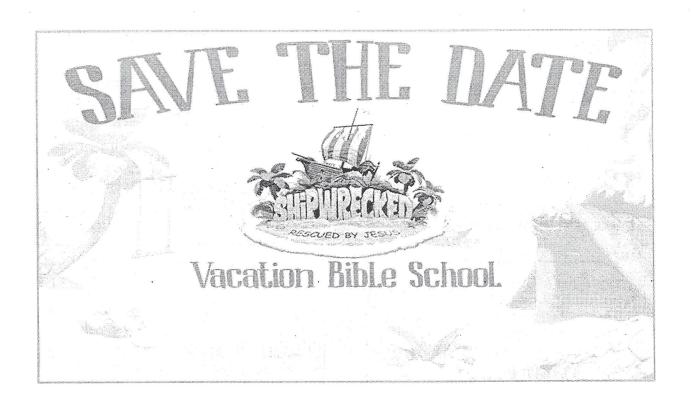


INVEST IN YOUTH



Youth Mission Can & Bottle Drive Continues!

Simply drop your cans in the collection bin outside the church office! Thank you for your support of our youth!

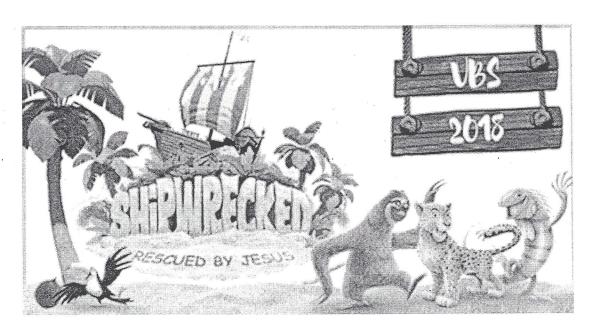


August 13-16, 2018 5:30pm-8:00pm, dinner included!

\$10 per person with family discounts available

Contact <u>meredithalspach4@gmail.com</u> to register or pick up a registration form in the church office

ALL ARE WELCOME!





PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

TO ASSIST WITH CRISES, NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

Look on their website to see what they do!

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,

though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;

God will help it when the morning dawns.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Amen

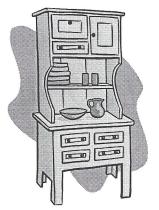
TO DONATE:

Call - 800-872-3283

Online - pda.pcusa.org Look for "Donate Now" at top

Check - Presbyterian Church (USA)
PO Box 643700 Pittsburgh,
PA 15264-3700
On memo line, designate where
you want your donation to go.





FOOD PANTRY Giving Suggestions

Spaghetti sauce

Carillon Hymns and Honoree's for May

Selection Date 5/8 How Great Thou Art 5/12 Sweet Hour of Prayer All Things Bright & Beautiful 5/13 5/17 God of Grace & God of Glory O Master Let Me Walk with Thee 5/17 Hymn of Praise 5/21 Little Brown Church in the Vale 5/31

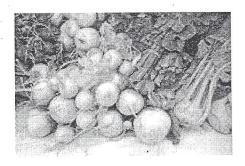
Honoree

Isaac Henry & Daisy Berg Elizabeth Dorothy Hubbell Stimson Larry Myland birthday Wanda H. Griffiths Brad Hoorn Millard Murphy birthday



Coming This Month ...





The Richland Farmers' Market is in its 10th year of operation, and is located on the grounds of the Richland Area Community Center, 9400 East CD Ave. The market will be open Wednesday afternoons, 3:00-6:00 p.m., May 9th to October 3rd.

The goals of the market are threefold:

1) to be a profitable outlet for local farmers and craft vendors,

2) to create a gathering spot and opportunity for social interactions for Richland area residents,

3) to provide a predictable, ample selection and variety of high quality fresh, locally-grown produce and crafts for customers.

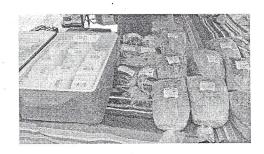
We are a proud partner of the Michigan Farmers Market Association (MIFMA) and the Food Assistance Partnership.

We will again be accepting Bridge Cards at the market; come on out and use your cards for fresh, local, healthy food.

http://richlandfarmersmarket.weebly.com/





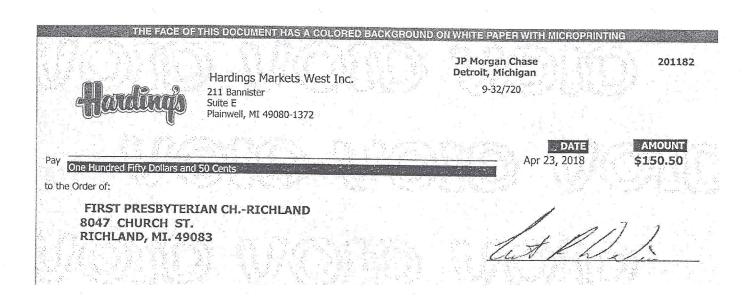


Building and Grounds Update

We have made good progress over the past 2+ years in updating our building, grounds, and contents, and bringing them up to a good state of repair. We have established preventative maintenance and inspection systems to help us prevent unexpected and costly repairs. These systems provide the information necessary to enable us to establish planned replacement programs.

Effective May 1, 2018, Rick Foster will assume responsibility for all of our building, grounds and contents maintenance programs. This includes maintenance of the Memorial Garden, which is part of the budget of the Property Committee of Session. I will concentrate my efforts on finalizing quotes and planning for renovation of our Bell Tower, assisting the Presbyterian Women with selection and installation of a new stove that they plan to purchase for our church, and firming up plans to ensure the future of our Endowment Fund.

Blessings, Tom





This is what happens when you use Harding's Community Rewards program. Feel free to sign up at www.hardings.com and follow the prompts to get you to Richland First Presbyterian Church!

Want to do something even easier? Just remember that the church telephone number is 269-629-4944, and when you're checking out at Hardings, the screen will prompt you to enter a phone number. Badaboom-badabing, the church gets "free money"!!

May

ay Birthdays





Andy Alspach	1	Alison Butler	19
Harold Gobble	1	Carolyn Venner	19
Gavin Inman	1	Sandra Gobble	20
Jason Lindenberg	2	Tyson Putt	20
Marcia Delf	3	Ken Hetzel	21
Bruce Howard	4	Haylee Inman	21
Alexander Inman	4	Lee Coverly	22
Bill Mattes	5	Mara Juodawlkis	22
Anna Bea Miller	5	Ridge Robinson	22
Vicki Janson	6	Kathy Kreager	23
Jeannine Schott	10	Vaughn Kubiak	24
Aynna Lloyd	11	Chloe Wieber	24
Jonathan Reid	11	Anna Gross	26
Lindsay Webb	12	Carrie Sutton	26
Emily Mattes	13	Poppy Smith	27
Barb Brundage	14	Tom Webb	27
Josh Murray	14	Eric Wines	27
Kara Reinhardt	15	Erica Wines Smith	27
Joyce Gibson	16	Tony White	28
Carolyn Gruys	16	Kaitlyn Quada	29
Vicky Langshaw Thomas	17	Lynne Quada	29
Larry Myland	17	Jason Rairigh	29
Joan Willemstyn	17	George Becker	31
Shannan Deater	18	Larke Lindenberg	31





Anniversaries

2 Judy and Ted Ruser	37 years	22 Marcia and Robert Delf	42
5 Ken and Debbie Sunden	28	22 Laura and DJ LaLonde	42
7 Cheryl and Bob Reinhardt	41	24 Mark and Erin Jennings	32
7 Leo and Diane Rench	41	25 Jennifer and Mike Odar	22
7 Shari and Rick Wynsma	30	26 Jean and Walt Stafford	56
9 Sandra and Harold Gobble	54	27 Steve and Sharon Sorrell	35
10 Ken and Sandy Barts	38	27 Dan and Sandra Weigel	29
11 Amy and Mike Juodawlkis	22	28 Jill and Tim Bair	35
12 Gavin and Katie Inman	17	28 Ed and Ronda Schaadt	52
14 Lynne and Brian Quada	35	30 Kim and Jim Saunders	36
21 Mark and Jilisa Williams	24		

First Presbyterian Church 8047 Church Street Richland, MI 49083

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Mark W. Jennings, Pastor

Dr. Murray Cooper, Congregational Care Coordinator
Faith Fiordalis, Financial Secretary
Gretchen Ferris, Treasurer
Larry Myland, Director of Music
Sadarra Fields, Director of Choirs
Meredith Alspach, Program Coordinator
Julie Pixley, Children's Worship Leader
Heather Putt, Nursery Supervisor
Connie Slater, Sexton
Julie Pixley, Administrative Secretary

