

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORT HURON**  
**811 Wall Street – Port Huron, MI 48060**  
**(810) 985-6191**

## THE CHALLENGE NEWSLETTER

♣ MARCH 2022 ♣

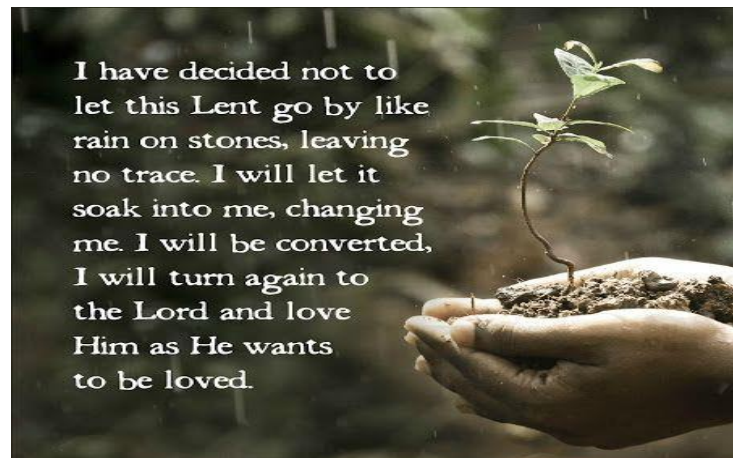
### IN NEED OF PRAYER

Jim Opferman; medical. Anne Wilton; medical.  
Peggy Williams; medical. MaryJo Heck; medical.

David Dunn; medical.

All who are serving in the military,  
first responders, medical personnel,  
and our elected officials.

Anyone you may know of that we  
are not aware of, please lift them up in prayer.  
Be kind to one another.



I have decided not to  
let this Lent go by like  
rain on stones, leaving  
no trace. I will let it  
soak into me, changing  
me. I will be converted,  
I will turn again to  
the Lord and love  
Him as He wants  
to be loved.

### Come Worship with Us

Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.

Facebook –

@First Presbyterian Church  
Port Huron

YouTube -

@FirstPresbyterianChurch

Website – fpcporthuron.org

Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall  
immediately following worship.

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#### **Reverend Doctor Roxie Davis**

Part-Time Interim Pastor

(586) 838-9053

[roxieanddavis@hotmail.com](mailto:roxieanddavis@hotmail.com)

#### **Michelle Fisher**

Christian Education Director

[portpresby.ce@gmail.com](mailto:portpresby.ce@gmail.com)

#### **Jim Fisher**

Social Media/Marketing Tech

[portpresby.social@gmail.com](mailto:portpresby.social@gmail.com)

#### **Amanda Schwehofer**

Bookkeeper

[amandafpcporthuron@gmail.com](mailto:amandafpcporthuron@gmail.com)

(Tuesday Mornings)

#### **Julie Wendt**

Office Administrator

(810) 985-6191

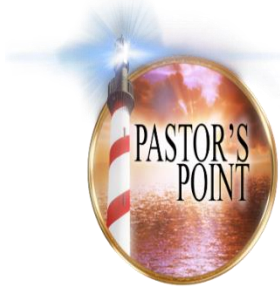
[portpresby@gmail.com](mailto:portpresby@gmail.com)

(M-TH: 9am-3pm)

#### **Bill Briscoe**

Custodian/Maintenance Director

(M & TH: 9am-3pm)



## **PASTOR'S POINT, MARCH 2022**

March marks the two-year anniversary of the Pandemic. It has brought not only grief for so many who have died, but also the debilitating effects of many “long-haulers” who are fighting the physical effects of having had Covid 19. The mental health issues are evident which have sprung up from two years of stress and strain, not only on us as human beings but also on the brokenness of our communities, our nation and our world.

The landscape of our world has shifted not only by the Pandemic but by inflation and by the shifting powers of nations around the world. All of this could cause great fear in us. However, we are people of faith who hold onto the promises of God—God’s presence, provision, and power in troubled times.

We constantly must be on the lookout for what God is doing in our world. We constantly need to be aware of the “silver lining” in a pandemic, like the use of technology which has brought the gospel to others outside our church doors; like the energetic efforts to keep in touch with those who are the most vulnerable in our midst; and the concern for “gathering as community,” a life-line for us humans, not only in our communing with God but sharing our faith with each other and the gospel with those who do not know God in Jesus Christ.

It says in our Mission Statement: Know the love of God; Grow in the Christian faith; and Go share our faith in Jesus Christ.

It says in Galatians 6: 9-10: “Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.”

May we be about God’s business as the Body of Christ.



The Theme for the March Preaching Series is:

**“Faith over Fear: Jesus Crushes Our Fears”**

**March 6, 13, 20, 27 & April 3**

In this Lenten Preaching Series during the month of March, we will identify our debilitating fears and discover how Jesus deals with them. Certainly, during this time of Lent, we have a chance to reflect on our life and our faith. We will move towards the cross and the resurrection, recognizing our fears and how God in Jesus Christ continually says, both in word and deed, “Do Not Be Afraid. I Am With You”. In the end, we will endeavor to affirm, “Faith over Fear equals Hope for the Future”.

**MOVIE NIGHT**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2022**  
**7:00 p.m.**



Let's meet in the Fellowship Hall to enjoy each other's company,  
meet new friends and neighbors, and enjoy the movie  
“Up”

We'll have popcorn and beverages and a short discussion  
about the movie. It's free! Everyone is welcome!



## One Great Hour of Sharing

For over 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with neighbors in need around the world. The three programs supported by OGHS – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self Development of People – all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

For many years the OGHS has provided "Fish Offering Boxes" to be used as a way to help children focus on the mission of OGHS and teach them the joy of giving. The Fish Offering Boxes will be handed out to the children on March 6<sup>th</sup>, the first Sunday after Ash Wednesday. The boxes will be collected on Palm Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. On that Sunday, One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes will be provided to the adults in the congregation so they too can serve this mission.

## BOARD OF DEACONS

### Community Ministry Committee

During the month of March, the Community Ministry Committee will be collecting snack items to be distributed to the Cleveland

Elementary and Woodrow Wilson Elementary Schools. There will be a plastic bin located in the Fellowship Hall where these items can be placed. Items specifically requested by school administration are: crackers, granola bars, fruit snacks and juice boxes (please avoid snack items containing peanuts and/or peanut butter). Thank you.





Betty McLean	-	Mar. 1
Devon Poe	-	Mar. 1
Theo Kerhoulas	-	Mar. 4
Gwen Spiess	-	Mar. 6
Mary Morgan	-	Mar. 9
Nancy Domke	-	Mar. 11
Callaway Kuester	-	Mar. 13
Shirley Rhody	-	Mar. 15
Zachary Vollstaedt	-	Mar. 18
Katherine Domke	-	Mar. 19
Paula Cameron	-	Mar. 20
Jonathon Beerbower	-	Mar. 21
Pamela Secory	-	Mar. 22
Barbara Neal	-	Mar. 22
Ann Vincent	-	Mar. 22
Sandra Herber	-	Mar. 24
Pamela Roskey	-	Mar. 26
Lynn Vincent	-	Mar. 29
Dorinne Crowell	-	Mar. 30

Matt & Liz Lozen  
March 12

Olen & Darla Hayes  
March 29

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*Remember, the **April** Newsletter  
article submission deadline is  
**March 20<sup>th</sup>.***

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## NURSERY DURING SERVICES

Birth – 3yrs

## GIFT (Growing In Faith Together)

3yrs – 9yrs/3<sup>rd</sup> grade

After the Children's Moment during the 10:00 a.m. service of worship, children will be invited to attend a special time for children where they will hear and participate in a lesson geared just for them.



## SINGING THE FAITH!

Every Sunday, the children will be meeting in the G.I.F.T. room at 11:15 – 11:30 a.m. to practice songs that many children of God have grown up singing. They will sing what they learn once a month during the worship service.

During March, we will practice and **sing the song “I’m Gonna’ Sing”, to be presented during worship service on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. All ages of children are welcome.**

## **G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together) MARCH ACTIVITIES**

Sunday, March 6, the children will receive their "Fish Banks" for the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering. During Lent, we celebrate that God connects with us through Jesus' resurrection and connects us with "those who have least" – that's how Matthew 25 put it – and that's what One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is all about. Banks will be returned during worship on Sunday, April 3.

**March 6 - "Forgiveness"** – Forgiving others helps us grow closer to God. Singing the Faith will begin at 11:15 a.m.

**March 13 – "Patience"** – Being patient bring us closer to God. Palm Sunday Play practice will begin at 11:30 a.m.

**March 20 – "Welcome Spring"** - God sends us Spring! Palm Sunday Play practice will begin at 11:30 a.m

**March 27 – "Grassy Meadows"** – We feel safe in God's faithful love. NO play practice (spring break).

**Looking ahead:** The CE Committee is planning a play presentation on Palm Sunday. We are looking for a few adults to join the fun and play a role along with the children. The roles include the main character – Danny the Donkey; and a few crabby people (Pharisees). These roles have very minimal (or no) lines. The children would love for you to join us! Please talk to Michelle Fisher if you have any questions or would like to serve God in this way. The time commitment would be as follows:

2-Sunday practices = March 13 & 20 (following church service)

1-Saturday practice = April 9 (time to be decided)

1-Performance Sunday = April 10, 2022, during the service



In an effort to make tithing easier for our members, we will be using **Tithe.ly** for online donations. This will make giving to the church meaningful, simple & FAST! Members & Friends can now access a donation form directly on our website. When members make an online donation, the Tithe.ly app gives them the option to cover any processing fees. Those fees are

2.9% +.30 per transaction (most credit cards), 1% + .30 per transaction for direct ACH/Bank or 3.5% + .30 for American Express cards. If members choose to not cover the processing costs, they will be deducted from the overall total donation to FPC (please keep this in mind).

Not interested in using the Tithe.ly application but would like to make giving easier? Please feel free to contact the office to get signed up for automated giving. We use Hubbard Press as a third party to process these donations. It's safe and convenient. Members can also set up a recurring donation to the church using their online banking program (be sure to check with your bank to see if there are any fees involved).

There are so many ways to make giving to your church easy & efficient. Contact our bookkeeper, Amanda, if you have any questions on the Tithe.ly app or the other available methods of automatic donations.

**FERMENTING FAITH –**  
**Tuesday, March 1, 2022**

By popular demand, “Fermenting Faith” is back! Food, Faith and Fellowship. It all happens on March 1, mimicking the celebration of Mardi-gras in New Orleans—the big “blow out” party before the solemn reflecting time of Lent which starts the next day, Ash Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The cost is \$40 per person, including dinner, drinks, and gratuity.



On Tuesday, March 1, we will gather at the Vintage Tavern at 6:30 p.m. for food, fun, laughter and some talk of faith, led by Elder Matt Lozen. At the end of the evening, we will transition into what it means to walk through Lent together, spoken by Pastor Roxie. **Make sure that you get your reservation into Matt Lozen by Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup> - text, phone or e-mail Matt: 810-841-0214; [mclozen@gmail.com](mailto:mclozen@gmail.com)**





## **ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022**

On Ash Wednesday we are beginning Lent in a more meditative, personal way. We will NOT be having a Worship Service at 7:00 p.m. as previously

advertised. Instead, we will open the sanctuary from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Ash Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> for each of you to come into the sanctuary, at your convenience, for some personal time of reflection and meditation; a good start to the Lenten Season of self-examination. Between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., you are invited to stay as long as you want. There will be meditative and devotional materials available to you and ashes (with an explanation of their significance) will be on the Communion Table. Please take advantage of this opportunity to prepare for the Lenten season of 40 days, not counting Sundays, which leads us to Easter, the Celebration of Jesus' Resurrection.

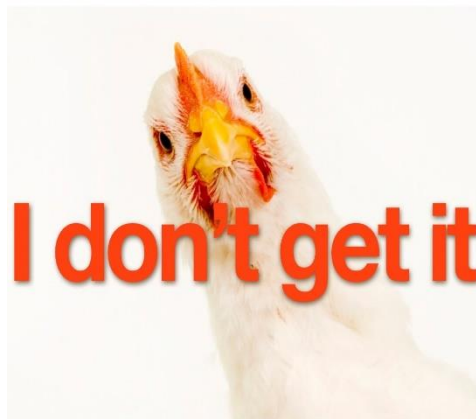
### **PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

This is an update on the process to choose a Called Pastor for the future of First Presbyterian Church, Port Huron. We have received from many of you, suggestions for the seven members who will make up the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). After much intense work by the PNC, probably over a period of one year, they will bring their recommendation of who should be the "Called Pastor" for First Presbyterian Church, Port Huron.

However, before the PNC begins its work, the people for the PNC must be chosen by a vote of the congregation at a Special Congregation Meeting which will probably happen within the next month or so.

At the Session's next meeting (March 14) the Session will vote on who will sit on the 5-member Selection Committee. Their job will be to recommend the 7-member Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) and to present their slate to the congregation for a vote at a Special Congregational Meeting; the date of that Special Congregational Meeting will be set by the Session.

As we move into this process, Wendy Beck, our Presbytery of Detroit Liaison Person, will come to speak with the Session and then do a follow-up visit at the first meeting of the PNC once they have been chosen and are meeting for the first time. Once the PNC is formulated and starts its work, Pastor Roxie will have no influence or input into that process except to answer questions as to where to go for information and help in the PNC process.



Now if I (Pastor Roxie) have just “muddled the water” for you, please come to the information class that I will lead on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. on “Presbyterianism 101: The Structure and Governance of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.” The emphasis will be on how the structure of being Presbyterian impacts the ministry at FPC Port Huron.

**INFORMATION GATHERINGS 9:00 A.M., Month of March, 2022**  
**Mark Your Calendar:**

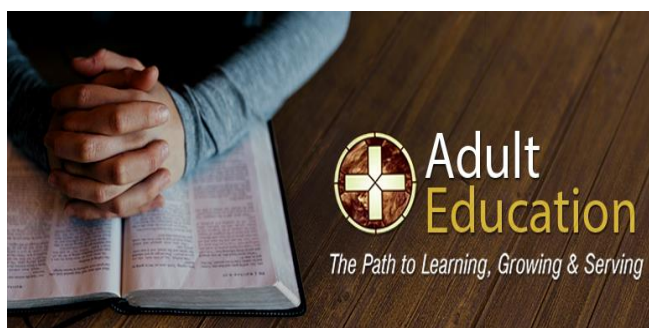
March 6, 9:00 a.m. Lower Level, Presbyterianism 101 (Review of the structure and governance of the Presbyterian Church USA and its implications for FPC Port Huron.)

March 13, 9:00 a.m., Sanctuary, Liturgists Training for Experienced and New People who might be interested in being a Liturgist.

March 20, 9:00 a.m., Lower Level, Lay Preacher Training. An opportunity to learn how to put together a sermon. Some of you in the training might choose to be a Substitute Lay Preacher for those times when the pastor is away.

March 27, 9:00 a.m. Parlor, WIN (Wonderful Introduction for Newcomers) Class for those who want to learn more about FPC Port Huron, the Presbyterian Church USA and who might be interested in becoming a church member.

April 5, 9:00 a.m. Lower-Level, Lay Preacher Training. An opportunity to hone your skills in delivering a sermon.



For the month of March and one Sunday in April, there will be an Adult Education Series on “Late Life Planning”. Please note it will be from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 a.m. each Sunday of March, located in the Lower Level. Coffee time after worship will be in the Gathering Room so that you can grab a cup of coffee or something good to eat and bring it to the Lower Level. Here is the schedule:

- The first Sunday, March 6, 11:15 a.m.  
Probate 101 with lawyers Tim Lozen, Mark Davidson, and Anna Kovar P.C. (*Professional Corporation*)
- The second Sunday, March 13, 11:15 a.m.  
Medical Decisions with Dr. Alex Ruthven  
Probate 201 with Estate Planning and advanced probate issues with Lozen, Davidson, Kovar P.C.
- The third Sunday, March 20, 11:15 a.m.  
Funeral Planning 101: Laura Godwin and John Kendrick,  
Randall Pollack Funeral Home
- The fourth Sunday, March 27, 11:15 a.m.  
Funeral, Memorial, Committal Worship Services.  
Helping your family to plan for those occasions. Pastor Roxie Davis
- The fifth Sunday April 3, 11:15 a.m.  
Grief—how to lean into it and manage it.  
Pastor Roxie Davis and Laura Godwin



**W.I.N. Class March 27, 9:00 a.m. in the Church Parlor**

**Wonderful Introduction for Newcomers (WIN)** Class is an opportunity to get know others who are in the class, learn about the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. through a video presentation and hear some interesting facts about the First Presbyterian Church (FPC) of Port Huron. This class is led by Pastor Roxie.

The class is designed for those who are new among us; those who might want to transfer their membership from another church and for those who have been “friends” of the church and are now ready to join as members. At the end of class, we always allow for people to make a decision to join the church. But there is no pressure to do so since we know that making that decision takes time.

At the WIN Class on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. in the church parlor, you can ask your questions and you will get a packet of material which we hope is helpful for you to feel more at “home.” This class is a “win” for everyone! If you are interested, let us know or just come on March 27<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to getting to know you better!