

MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the First Presbyterian Church
of Coldwater, MI is to:

- † Glorify God by bringing others into Communion with Him,
- † Nurture the spiritual, emotional, physical
and social needs of its congregation,
- † Encourage faithful stewardship of the God given gifts of time,
talent, and substance, and
- † Be sensitive to the needs of our greater community.



Sunday Schedule:

11:00 am Worship Service
No coffee or Social Hour at this time.

Sunday School Schedule:

Adult Sunday School meets on Sunday
mornings at 9:30 am at the church

* CHURCH SERVERS*

LITURGIST- MAY

May 2- Bob Stewart
May 9- Beth Montgomery
May 16- Julie Lewis
May 23- Bruce Gregory
May 30- Peter Metters

COUNTERS-MAY

Julie Lewis
Tarina Macklem
Linda Parr

RECORDING THE WORSHIP SERVICE

May 2 Bob Montgomery
May 9 Paul hersberger &
Bob Montgomery
May 16 Paul Hersberger
May 23 Paul Hersberger
May 30

Please review the **usher list on page 6.**
If there is a problem with your scheduled
Sunday, please call the Deacon in Charge.

faith and finances

Finance Committee Report ~\$\$\$\$ **Monthly Needs for 2021 budget

Needed Monthly to meet budget: \$14,095.00

Needed weekly to meet budget \$3,523.75

Annual Per Capita: payment \$3,680.00

**FINANCIAL REPORT FROM : **

APRIL 2021 INCOME AND EXPENSES

INCOME AND DONATIONS: \$ 15,437.11

PAYMENTS AND PAYROLL: \$ 14,380.00

Weekly giving~

April 4th- \$3134.16

April 11th- \$3414.00

April 18th- \$1504.00

April 25th- \$3225.48

Remember:

*Stewardship is more than financial giving....
It is a sense of thanksgiving for all that
God has given us.*



Dear friends of First Presbyterian Church of Coldwater, Michigan,

Usually by this time of the year we are anticipating all the activities for Mother's Day and summer; picnics, block parties, and church events, but again this year that isn't the case. We are still recovering from Covid-19.

Recovering is the key word here. We are hopefully looking toward the end of all the distancing and can return to enjoying our families and friends in social settings. We all want to get back to "normal". But what is Normal in any given year?

Normal is being able to worship together without our current restrictions; being able to all enjoy Holy Communion with REAL bread and grape juice. Normal is planning outings to Tibbets Theatre and meals with friends without fear. Normal is being able to travel again just for fun. And that will come. But in the meantime we can and should be so very grateful for what we do have. We have in-person worship. We can sing (even with our masks on). We can greet one another even if it's from a distance. We can read holy scripture together. In short, we can BE the church of Jesus Christ.

I challenge each of us to enjoy what we have but to continue to long for what can be. To believe that God does take care of all of our needs, that we are not in charge, and to be grateful to God for all our benefits. We can grow, and change and step out into untried venues where we can be the hands and feet of Christ in our community and our world, because that is what Jesus calls us to in every gospel!

Let's look together for how we can grow ourselves, our faith, our church, and our involvement in our community for Christ's sake this year, 2021, TOGETHER!

I LOOK FORWARD SO VERY MUCH TO SERVING HERE WITH YOU,

IN CHRIST'S NAME,

Susan



Friends,

I'd like to share with you some thoughts about our symbol for Christianity, the CROSS. For me, when I see a cross, especially a large one like in our sanctuary, I see the cross beam where the horizontal piece becomes the arms of Christ reaching out to the whole world. So, the cross beam is about humanity. But the verticle piece is about God!!! That piece reaches from heaven to earth, from God to us! Isn't it a startlingly exquisite symbol for our faith in God and Jesus?

Here is what favorite author, Max Lucado says about the Cross:

"The Intersection of the Cross

The cross is the universal symbol of Christianity. An odd choice, don't you think? Strange that a tool of torture would come to embody a movement of hope. Its design could not be simpler. One beam horizontal, the other vertical. One reaches out, like God's love. The other reaches up, as does God's holiness. One represents the width of his love, the other the height of his holiness.

The cross is the intersection. The cross is where God forgave His children without lowering His standards. God treated His Son as a sinner so that Christ could make us acceptable to God. Why would He? John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world." Aren't you glad the verse doesn't read For God so loved the rich? ... the famous, the sober, or the successful? No, it simply reads For God so loved the world."

That means God loves you and me with an amazing love! Let that sink in this week and live it out to be Christ's witnesses in Coldwater and beyond.

*In Christ's love,
Susan R*

How Wide Is God's Love

It's nice to be included. You aren't always. Universities exclude you if you aren't smart enough. Businesses exclude you if you aren't qualified enough. And sadly, some churches exclude you if you aren't good enough. But though they may exclude you, Christ includes you. When asked to describe the width of his love, he stretched one hand to the right and the other hand to the left and had them nailed in that position so you would know he died loving you.

Surely there has to be a limit to this love. You'd think so, wouldn't you? But David the adulterer never found it. Paul the murderer never found it. Peter the liar never found it. When it came to life, they hit bottom. But when it came to God's love, they never did. How wide is God's love? Wide enough for the whole world, and you're included.

--Max Lucado

2020-2021 Annual Meeting

**The Session at its March 11th 2021 meeting, approved the call of the
181st Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation
of the First Presbyterian Church of Coldwater, Michigan,
SUNDAY MAY 2ND immediately following Worship Service
(approximately 12:00 PM), to review and act on annual reports,
Nominating Committee recommendations,
and other business that may be appropriate.**



SESSION BOARD MEMBERS

Class 2022	
Chris Doll	517-278-5259
Dennis Farwell	517-767-4251
Peter Metters	313-244-1570

Class 2023	
Paul Hershberger	903-767-3332
Velma Cole	517-639-7272
Linda Stewart	517-617-1399

CORPORATE BOARD

President- Linda Stewart
Treasurer- Velma Cole
Secretary- Julie Lewis

CORPORATE TRUSTEE

Dennis Farwell,
Paul Hershberger
Chris Doll

DEACON BOARD MEMBERS

Class 2022	
Marsh DeGroot	269-271-4271
Cheryl Metters	517-736-4040
Bob Stewart	517-617-0626

Class 2023	
Bob Montgomery	517-278-5028

From Your Session...

SESSION MEETING, APRIL 15, 2021 SUMMARY

We had a quorum of 5 members of Session present.

Moderator Reichenberg began the meeting with prayer at 6:00 followed by the book discussion on Chapter 3 from *"Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations"*

Treasurer Velma Cole gave her report.

Susan gave her Pastors report. Rev. Monte Reichenberg will be in Church April 25th and we all agreed we would enjoy having him do the sermon. We look forward to hearing him. Susan will also be on vacation Wednesday and Thursday April 28th and 29th.

The Finance Committee submitted the budget for 2021 and Session has approved this.

Under new business, the corporate board was elected. Linda Stewart will serve as President; Velma Cole, Treasurer; Julie Lewis, Secretary. Trustees are Dennis Farwell, Paul Hershberger and Chris Doll.

A question was brought up concerning hymns. At one time we stood for all the hymns we sing but the last few years we stand for only some. It was decided that we do need to stand for all hymns. We all feel better and sing better. So if you can, stand and sing.

Paul Hershberger gave an update on the screen/projector project. Wiring will be taken care of Tuesday the 20th. Parts are at a standstill evidently on board ship out in California so our time table for installation is unknown at this time. Thank you all for your added contributions to this project, along with your weekly tithings.

It was requested to let Joe and Jordan Oiler use the small dining room or Fellowship Hall to lead a Financial Peace University Class for 9 weeks. Dates and information will be available in the coming weeks.

As our Annual meeting will be Sunday May 2 following church services and Pastor Susan will be out of town May 9th through the 22nd, our next Session meeting should be Thursday June 17th.

Thank you,

Your Session Board Linda Parr, Dennis Farwell, Pete Metters, Linda Stewart, Chris Doll, Norm Heinemann, Paul Hershberger, Dick Daniels and Velma Cole.

Julie Lewis

Clerk of Session



With the new Relaunch guidelines we need 6 Ushers each Sunday. We could really use help in this area. So if this is a ministry that you would like to be a part, Please consider volunteering! Let the church office 517-278-6068 or Cheryl Metters 517-736-4040 know if you can help out and thank you in advance!

May Deacon in Charge: Bob Montgomery

MAY 2ND

Elevator Door: Jay Cole & Dennis Farwell
Calvin Hall: Cheryl & Pete Metters
Sanctuary: Beth & Bob Montgomery

May 9

Elevator Door: Beth & Bob Montgomery
Calvin Hall: Nancy & Bruce Gregory
Sanctuary: Linda & Bob Stewart

May 16

Elevator Door: Velma & Jay Cole
Calvin Hall: Cheryl & Pete Metters
Sanctuary: Beth & Bob Montgomery

May 23

Elevator Door: Jay Cole & Mike Renshaw
Calvin Hall: Rita & Jim Snyder
Sanctuary: Bob & Beth Montgomery

May 30

Elevator Door:
Calvin Hall:
Sanctuary:
Recording:

FPC's Outreach Report

DIAPER PANTRY WORK SCHEDULE MAY

May 6th- Cindy and Ashlyn
May 13th- Dean and Lois
May 20th- Rita and Sue P
May 27th- Jan C. and Beth

Thank you to all who donate and those who volunteer their time to work the Diaper Pantry!
This ministry would not be successful without you.

Branch County Food Pantry pounds of food donated to date is 245 pounds. Great job FPC,
Thank you Thank you Thank you!

P.W. Women~ (Presbyterian Women)

There are two active Presbyterian Women circles at the church. Deborah Circle and Sarah Circle. Both circles support many local ministries as well as the Presbyterian ministries. One of the local community ministries is the Domestic Women's shelter. Each month they collect and donate paper products.

DEBORAH CIRCLE meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 10:00 am at the church. The ladies in this circle began a book study in February, 2021, reading Max Lucado's book, *He Still Moves Stones*, led by Pastor Susan. The Circle members are enjoying the study that uses Scriptures, applying them to our lives today. We will meet until the book is finished and begin our regular year in September with a new study guide.

SARAH CIRCLE meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. and just had their first meeting of 2021 in April. They have started the study of *25 Women of the Bible* with Pastor Susan. We will begin another Bible Study in the fall.

The P.W. (Presbyterian Women) Coordinating Team has been meeting since it was safe to return to the church. This team coordinates what is going on between the two circles, and schedules the projects that both circles will be involved in.

THE PURPOSE OF THE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

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 (U.S.A.), and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Presbyterian Women is open to all women who choose to participate in, or be supportive of Presbyterian Women in any way. Presbyterian Women intentionally seeks the membership of women from all racial ethnic groups so that it may reflect a vision of the whole church as a community of mutual inter-dependence in which diversity contributes to wholeness.

Both circles have a lot to offer and is a great way to develop relationships with other women in the church. If you are not part of one of the circles and are interested in finding out more about them, you can call either Beth Montgomery, Sarah Circle leader at 517-278-5028 or Linda Stewart, Deborah Circle Leader at 517-617-1399

PRAYERS AND PRAISES

PRAYERS FOR:

(Underlining indicates up-dates).

- † *Lucas Smith*, (11 year old 5th grader) Betty Gleason's great grandson, friend of Lamar Livensparger, is in treatment for stage 3 cancer.
- † *Danny DeGroot*, (a client's husband of Cheryl Metters) who is having surgery for Esophageal and Stomach Cancer in March.
- † *Nancy Corwin*, knee problems, getting a MRI. Doing better with heart issues.
- † *Colleen Hoffman*, a good friend of the Metters, was just diagnosed with MS.
- † *Nancy Burkeen*, coworker of Dennis Farwell, continues stage 4 cancer treatments with mixed results.
- † *Bethany Stob* – Metter's niece, that her new treatment for Myasthenia Gravis works.
- † *Gladys Hershberger*, Paul Hershberger's mom, weight loss concerns
- † *Linda Stutz* Marsha Sansom's friend is in Hospice care.
- † *Carolyn (Susie) Smith*, Kara Bercaw's mother continues with Hospice care.
- † *Paxton Jameson*, Marsha Sansom's grandson, tour of duty in Jordan.
- † *Julie Dunlap*, cancer, Marsha Sansom's friend, still fighting cancer.
- † *Darlene Loetz*, cancer, Marsha Sansom's friend, still fighting cancer.
- † *Darlene Mier*, Marsha Sansom friend, still struggling with health issues.

PRAISES FOR:

4-4-2021

† **Our Risen Lord!**

- † Spending special time with family
- † The beautiful flowers
- † Meaningful worship services
- † Answered prayers for *Melissa Smith* – wife of one of Cheryl Metter's coworkers

4-11-2021

- † Safe travels
- † A very blessed Holy Week

4-18-2021

- † a dry Calvin Hall and Pastor's office
- † Spring!
- † Motorcycle riding season

4-25-2021

- † Kindness
- † The return of our Snowbirds!
- † Being able to have a Annual Meeting

Free Medical Clinic

THE PRESBYTERIAN HEALTH CLINIC is working with a limited staff, only filling medications of established patients at this time. No new patients or doctor visits are being seen until further notice. Patients are asked to stay in their cars and their medication will be taken to them.

The clinic hours are:

Thursdays from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

If you have questions about the clinic you can call the church office during church office hours or the clinic during clinic hours at 517-278-6068.

Stay safe and healthy!

A Bit Of Humor - COVID Style

I was just talking about going stir crazy the other day with the microwave and toaster while drinking coffee, and we all agreed that things are getting bad. I didn't mention anything to the washing machine, since she puts a different spin on everything. I certainly didn't mention anything to the fridge, as he is acting cold and distant. In the end, the iron straightened me out and said everything would be fine; no situation is too pressing. The vacuum was very unsympathetic, and told me to suck it up, but the fan was more optimistic and hopes it would all soon blow over! The toilet looked a bit flushed when asked its opinion and didn't say anything, but the doorknob told me to get a grip. The front door said I was unhinged, and so the curtains told me to, yes, you guessed it... pull myself together."

Author unknown

LECTIONARY FOR THE LORD'S DAY:

May 2nd- Acts 8:26-40, Ps. 22:25-31,
1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8

May 9th- Acts 10:44-48, Ps. 98, 1 John
5:1-6, John 15:9-17

May 16th- Acts 1:15-17, 21-26, Ps. 1,
1 John 5:9-13, John 17:6-19

May 23rd- Acts 2:1-21, Ezek. 37:1-14, Ps.
104:24-34, 35b, Rom. 8:22-27, Acts 2:1-21,
John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

May 30th- Isa. 6:1-8, Ps. 29, Rom. 8:12-17,
John 3:1-17



BIRTHDAYS

Karen Maxson	05/01
Don Farrand	05/01
Maggie Sexton	05/06
Sara Semmelroth	05/10
Dennis Sansom	05/14
Carol Ludlow	05/17
Norm Heinemann	05/21
Heather Gregory	05/26
Doris Heinemann	05/30

ANNIVERSARIES

Paul & Lorie Hershberger	05/02
Norm & Doris Heinemann	05/21

Church News

The church has a cradle that would be perfect for a doll. We would like to give to some lucky little girl! If interested or know someone that might be interested, please call the church office. 517-278-6068

OPPORTUNITIES:

-If anyone is interested in helping out in the church office, as the church office assistant please give the office a call to find out the details. Or if you know someone who would like a real part time job, have them call the office: 517-278-6068.

-Joe and Jordan Oiler will be leading a Financial Peace University class here at FPC, starting May 26 through July 21, 2021 from 6:00- 7:30 pm. Anyone who desires to learn more and do a better job of handling their finances check out the information below or call Jordan to get more information. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this class please share the information with them. Everyone is welcome!

Class members will need to purchase a membership in order to attend the class. A married couple only needs 1 membership; they do not need to purchase it individually.

Here is the unique class link that you will need to click to register for the class fpu.com/1136854. This will need to be included with any promotional items shared so people can register for the correct class.

Here is the link for the various promotional items.

<https://www.financialpeace.com/coordinator/classes/1136854/promo>.

There are a lot of great short videos on here that can be viewed to get a good idea of what this class is all about.

If anyone has any questions on anything, please have them call me at 260-667-3097. I am happy to answer any questions!

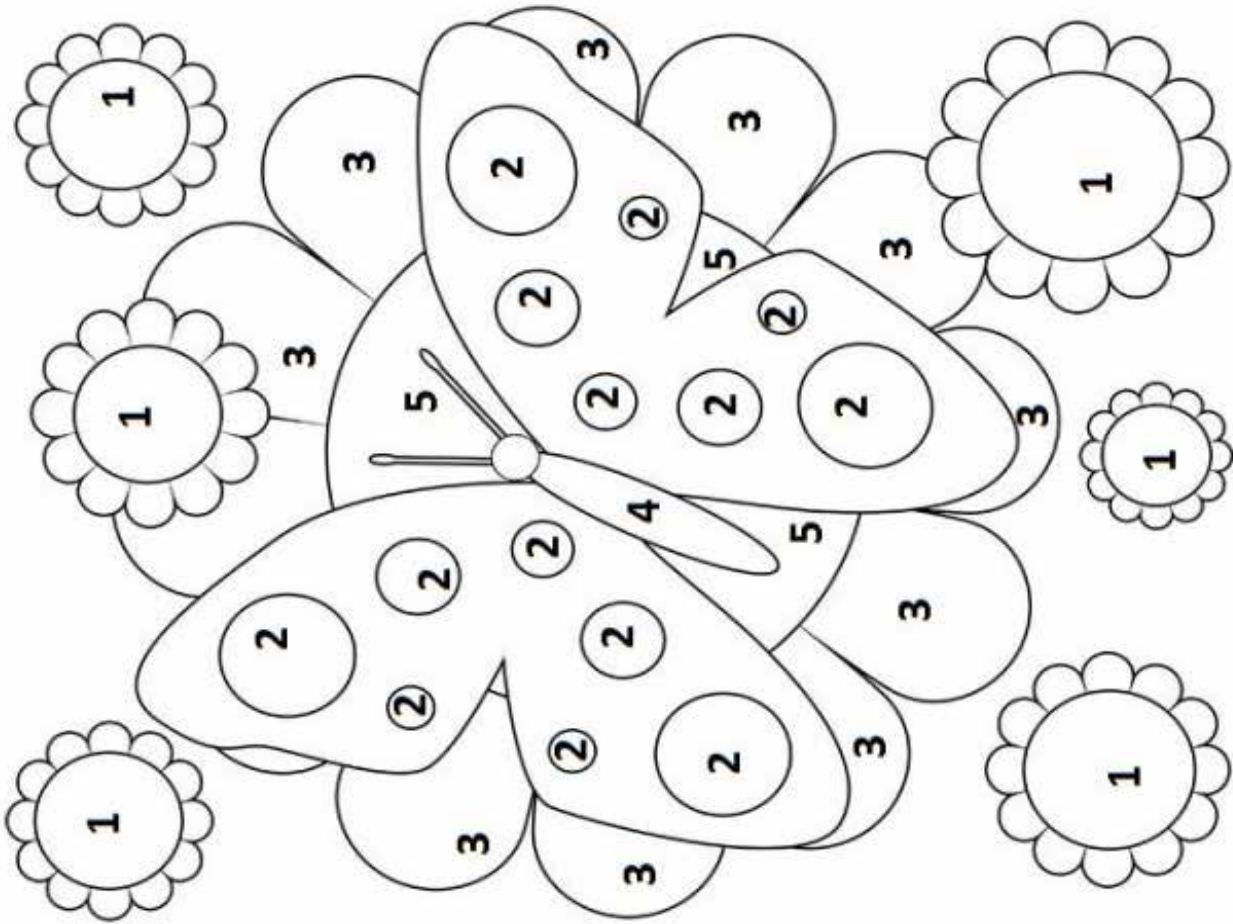
Jordan Oiler

Prosper Financial Coaching

Web: www.prosperfc.com

Phone: 260.667.3097

For the kid in all of us!



1-yellow 2-red 3-green 4-gray 5-blue

Spring

BUDS
DAFFODILS
FLOWERS
GRASS
RAIN

RAINBOW
SEEDS
SPRING
TULIPS
UMBRELLA

G	F	S	Q	O	I	I	S	L	S	U	R
E	D	U	R	Y	G	N	D	M	B	K	V
B	T	A	P	T	I	Q	E	K	D	I	F
S	K	N	F	A	G	H	E	H	P	B	C
P	T	D	R	F	B	W	S	Q	P	R	J
I	S	R	E	W	O	L	F	D	T	L	S
L	F	H	Z	F	G	D	S	A	N	U	M
U	X	U	U	F	R	R	I	D	J	T	Z
T	H	C	U	Z	A	J	A	L	U	T	V
U	M	B	R	E	L	L	A	S	S	B	M
B	N	S	M	G	N	I	R	P	S	M	K
R	A	I	N	B	O	W	D	J	A	C	P

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Recipes

Chocolate Cherry Cake

1 package chocolate cake mix
1 (21 ounce) can cherry pie filling
3 eggs
1 cup white sugar
5 tablespoons butter
 $\frac{1}{3}$ cup milk
1 cup semisweet chocolate chips

Directions:

Combine cake mix, cherry pie filling, and three eggs. Mix until well blended.
Bake in well greased and floured 9 x 13 pan. Bake at 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) for 35 to 40 minutes.
To Make Frosting: Combine sugar, butter or margarine, and milk. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly, and cook 1 minute. Remove from heat.
Stir in chocolate pieces until melted and smooth.
Frost when cake is cool.

Cannoli Dip

Ingredients

2 cups ricotta cheese
1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups confectioners' sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup miniature semisweet chocolate chips

Directions

Beat ricotta cheese and cream cheese together in a bowl until smooth; add sugar and vanilla. Continue to stir mixture until sugar is completely incorporated. Fold chocolate chips through the cheese mixture.

Cover bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate until chilled, at least 10 minutes. Serve with a butter cookie

Rhubarb and Strawberry Dump Cake


Ingredients

4 cups chopped rhubarb
2 cups sliced strawberries
1 (3 ounce) package strawberry-flavored gelatin mix (such as Jell-O®)
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup white sugar, or more to taste (Optional)
1 package yellow cake mix
1 cup warm water
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter

Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 9 x 13-inch baking pan.
Place rhubarb and strawberries in baking pan. Evenly spread strawberry-flavored gelatin mix over fruit, then repeat with cake mix. Pour water over cake mix layer; do not stir. Dot the top of the cake with butter.
Bake in the preheated oven until cake is bubbly, about 20 minutes.

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>May 1st- May Day May 6th- National Prayer Day May 9th- Mother's Day May 31st- Memorial Day</p>						
2 9:30 am Adult Class 11:00 Worship Rev. Reichenberg 12:00 pm Annual Mtg	3	4	5	6 National Day of Prayer 4-6:00 pm Clinic 4-6pm- Diaper Pantry	7 Church office closed	8
9 Mother's Day 9:30 am Adult Class 11:00 Worship Rev. Reichenberg Recorded	10 10:00 am Deborah Circle Pastor Susan gone→	11 7:00 pm- Sarah Circle →	12 →	13 4-6:00 pm Clinic 4-6pm- Diaper Pantry →	14 Church office closed →	15 →
16 9:30 am Adult Class 11:00 Worship Rev. John Toth →	17 →	18 →	19 →	20 4-6:00 pm Clinic 4-6pm- Diaper Pantry →	21 Church office closed →	22 →
23 9:30 am Adult Class 11:00 Worship Rev. Reichenberg Back in Office	24	25	26	27 4-6:00 pm Clinic 4-6pm- Diaper Pantry	28 Church office closed	29
30 9:30 am Adult Class 11:00 Worship Rev. Reichenberg	31 Memorial Day Church office closed					

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
52 MARSHALL STREET
COLDWATER, MI 49036

May 2021

NEWSLETTER

Come Join Us On Sunday

11:00 am ~Worship Service

Handicapped accessible building

Meet our Church Staff

PASTOR, *Rev. Susan Reichenberg*

Accompanist, *Liz Mowan*

ADULT BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR, *Rita Snyder*

KNOW YOUR COLORS BELLS, *Eunice Williams*

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIST, *Cindy Fickle*

OFFICE ASSISTANCE, *Cathy Maresh*

CUSTODIAN, *Rob Denniston*

First Presbyterian Church 52 Marshall Street, Coldwater, MI 49036

Phone: 517-278-6068 2nd# 517-278-7848

Church E-mail Address: ColdwaterFPC@gmail.com
cindypresby@hotmail.com for Administrative Assistant

Website: <https://www.firstprescoldwater.org>

Rev. Susan Reichenberg (567)242-8722 sreichenberg8227@gmail.com