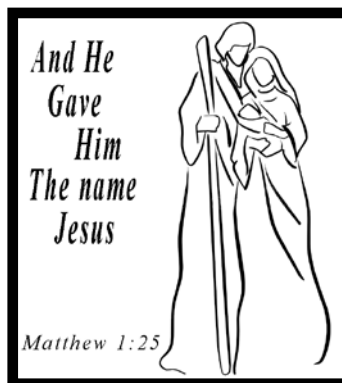


OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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:

9:00 am Choir Resumes
9:15 am Adult Sunday School
9:15 am Children Activity Center
Bell Choirs see calendar

Sunday Schedule:

10:30 Worship Service
Childcare provided
11:45 A.M. Coffee Hour

*** CHURCH SERVERS***

OPENING-CLOSING THE CHURCH:

Opening Julie Lewis

Closing Jay Cole

LITURGIST:

12/1- Pete Metters

12/8- Cheryl Metters

12/15- Sally Whitten

12/22- Tarina Macklin

12/24- Pete and Cheryl Metters

12/29- Mary Farwell

COUNTERS:

Dennis Farwell

Peter Metters

Carol Ludlow

DIAPER PANTRY WORKERS

12/5- Dick and Mary

12/12- Jan and Sue

12/19- Beth and Cindy

If you are interested in volunteering to
either open and close the church for a month
or serving as a liturgist for 2020, please call
the office 517-278-6068.

There are plenty of available dates!



Finance Committee Report ~\$\$\$\$

****Monthly Needs for 2019 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 : ****

Income and Donations: \$13,116.13

Payments and month Payroll: \$12,605.13

Weekly giving~

11/3- \$3638.00

11/10- \$2049.00

11/17- \$1945.50

11/24- \$3317.50

Remember:

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

From Pastor Deb....



What's been Happen'ng at the Tall Steeple, ...you ask???

So What's go'n'a be Happen'ng??

Saturday, 23 November is our local mission work day at the Food Pantry. We will be helping with the Holiday Boxes from 9-12 noon. Feel free to come and join us as we join with others from around our area to Love our neighbors as ourselves.

Sunday, 1 December is also Advent 1. We will begin our observance of this time of preparation for the coming of the Christ with Advent Lessons and Carols at our 10:30 service. Don't forget the Ladies' Tea and Boutique on Tuesday, 3 December at 1pm. Please note the time change. If you're late you may miss out on something to nibble as well as a wonderful Christmas program.

Chris Doll has organized an outing to Turkeyville on Friday, 13 December for Santa Gets a Pink Slip. Please see her regarding time and ticket price. This is a lunchtime performance.

Our United Methodist neighbors will be hosting the Christmas Cantata on Saturday, 21 December at 6:30pm. The combined choirs did a stellar job last year. If you missed out, you might want to mark your calendar now. It's a great way to take a time out from BUSY and engage in sacred time. The holiday season, Thanksgiving through the New Year can be a very difficult and lonely time for many folks. If this is true for you, know that

We are invited to join our UMC neighbors on Sunday, 22 December at 6pm for a Blue Christmas service.

Our Christmas Eve service will be 7pm on Tuesday, 24 December. We will have a hospitality time to follow in Fellowship Hall. This time allows us to greet our family members who have returned to CW to spend time with friends and family. Please join us and consider inviting a neighbor to come with you. I think our sanctuary is one of the most beautiful places that I've ever been to worship on Christmas.

We have two Sundays of Christmas this year, 29 December and 5 January. In honor of the Last Day of Christmas (5 Jan) Cindy and I were discussing how we might celebrate the morning of Twelfth Night. How?? A White Elephant gift exchange. Look around your home or through your things. Is there something that is perfectly good that you no longer use or have never used?? Wrap it up. Mark it with child, man, woman, anyone. Bring it with you to coffee hour that morning. We'll put it in a basket and you can pick out a new to you present. Yes, you may bring more than one item. If it's a game or puzzle just make certain that all of its pieces are present.

We mourn the loss of Ken Miller, long time friend and member of our tall steeple family. A celebration of his life took place on Tuesday, 12 November. Please keep Marilyn, Carrie & Shawn, Eric & Denise and Tammy and their families in your prayers. Rest Eternal grant to him O Lord and let light perpetual shine upon him.

Please keep Luella in your prayers as she moves from her lifetime home. Let us not forget Vera recovering at home from pneumonia. And Karen McGraw who left on a trip whole and returned to us broken. May your Love, O God, enfold them and ever hold them fast. Amen. God's Peace to you always, deb.

Session and Deacon News

SESSION MEETING, THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2019

We had a quorum of 8 of our 9 board members. Jim Hegedus was our Moderator from First Pres. in Jackson.

Cheryl Meters reported on the Deacons Board.

It was unanimous that the Church office be closed on Thursday December 26th.

Velma Cole gave the Treasurers report.

It has been decided that choir will not be singing the months of January, February and March as most of our members are gone for the winter.

Bruce Gregory gave an update on the work being done around the Church. We are hoping to have work done on Calvin Hall roof before the end of the year. Weather permitting. The drainage issue from Calvin Hall as well as side walk repair will be done in the Spring of 2020.

A request has been made for an update Pictorial Directory for the Church. Cindy will take pictures December 1 and December 10th while taking Family Christmas Photos for the Church. Contact Julie Lewis to make arrangements.

We are adding hours to our Custodian Rob's work list. This will be for deep cleaning of the Sanctuary weekly.

Our next Session Meeting will be Thursday December 19th

Julie Lewis
Clerk of Session

DEACONS

NEXT DEACON MEETING: DECEMBER 15TH

Following the worship service

DEACON IN CHARGE:

Sue Paarlberg

COMMUNION SERVERS ON DEC. 15

Sally Whitten, Sue Paarlberg
Mary & Dennis Farwell

USHERS & GREETERS:

12/1- Linda & Bob Stewart,
Chery & Peter Metters
12/8- Dean & Lois Williams, Luella Senker,
Joel Rufenacht
12/15 Bruce & Nancy Gregory,
Tarina Macklem, Julie Lewis
12/22 Joe Best, Jan Breckenridge & Kate
Christmas Eve
Bob & Linda Stewart,
Bob & Beth Montgomery
12/29- Jeff Paarlberg & family

† The shut-ins:

Duane and Vera Rufenacht
531 Tompkins Dr.
Coldwater, MI



FPC Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women
December 2019

We are well into the holiday season. Our Christmas Tea is December 3, 2019. We have decorated the fellowship hall for the season. We have 130 women from 10 churches celebrating the start of the Christmas season. The women of First Presbyterian Church participate in setting up, making items for the Boutique, bringing treats, bringing guests, and cleaning up. It is a special gathering for everyone. Our theme this year is *The Stories Behind the Carol's*.

We continue to serve the church in any way we can. Sarah Circle sent 3 goodie boxes to our college students to help them study for exams. The students enjoy the boxes. We enjoy putting them together.

Both circles are continuing to participate in our Bible study, *Love Carved in Stone*. It is the focus of the 10 commandments and how to put them in perspective in today's context.

We also make weekly and monthly gifts of paper products for the Shelter house. We support ReRe, who lives in India. We post pictures on our bulletin board by the entrance door.

There are many activities going on in December. Check your newsletter and weekly bulletins.

As we go forward into December, we wish you and yours the very best of Christmas. May you spend this wonderful season with family and friends!

We sometimes get so busy during this season that we overextend ourselves. Stay focused on the reason for the season. Take care of yourselves so you can be an active participant in this wonderful season.

Jan Corey, Chris Doll, Lorie Hershberger, Beth Montgomery, Sue Paarlberg, and Linda Stewart

FPC's Outreach Report

We met the Branch County Food Pantry challenge of 1200 boxed cake mixes. In fact 1221 mixes were collected! Get job FPC! On November 23rd FPC had 9 people from FPC worked with other volunteers from around the county to assemble the Holiday Food Boxes Food Pantry, and hand them out. There was a steady stream of recipients from 8:00 am to noon.

The Diaper Pantry continues to serve our community. In November we were able to help 83 children and 5 adults. We gave out 250 children's diapers. This ministry is only able to continue this outreach because of the donations received by you. We thank you so much for your support.

Beth Montgomery, Bob and Linda Stewart



PRAYERS FOR:

- † *Melissa Gottschalk*- (Lamar Livensparger's daughter) Recovering from surgery
- † *Ken Miller's* family and friends as we grieve his death.
- † *Pat Alaniz*, testing for cancer, a classmate of Jan Corey's.
- † *Karen McGraw*, surgery recovery.
- † *Vera Rufenacht* is home recovering.
- † *Kris Hegedus*. Rev. Jim Hegedus's wife, cancer (Pastor Jim is moderator of Session)
- † *Paxton Jameson*, Marsha Sansom's grandson, tour of duty in Afghanistan.
- † *Don, Pastor Deb's friend*, Inoperable tumor, chemo and radiation starting this week.
- † *Ann Votaw*, friend of Sally Whitten, multiple serious health issues
- † *Nancy Burkeen*, coworker of Dennis Farwell, just starting cancer treatments
- † *Julie Dunlap*, cancer, Marsha Sansom's friend, health issue
- † *Darlene Loetz*, cancer, Marsha Sansom's friend, health issue
- † *Darlene Mier*, Marsha DeGroot's friend, health issue
- † *Gladys Hershberger*, Paul Hershberger's mom
- † **Our Shut-ins:** Duane and Vera Rufenacht.

And...† Pray for our current and future pastors and the PNC.

PRAISES FOR ~

11/3

- † All the Saints that have gone before us.

11/10

- † Our veterans and their service to our country.
- † The response to the "Cake Mix" challenge.

11/17

- † Safe driving this week!
- † Getting the snow plows here before Tuesday morning.
- † The church's outreach to the Miller family.

11/24

- † All the small blessings we forget to be thankful for.
- † What are your praises?

Church News

From the PNC~

Thanks you for your continued prayers. Please continue to pray for the search and that we continue to be aware on where God is leading us on this search.

Activities at the Church(Check Calendar for Times)

Sun. Dec. 1st- Christmas Pictures
 Tues. Dec. 3rd The Annual Christmas Tea
 Fri. Dec. 6th - Staff Christmas Party
 Mon. Dec. 9th- Deborah Circle
 Tues. Dec. 10th- Sarah Circle
 Tues. Dec. 10th- Christmas Pictures
 No Sunday School or Children Activity Center on Dec. 22nd and 29th
 Tues. Dec. 24th- Christmas Eve Service
 Wed. Dec. 25th- Christmas
 Thur. Dec. 26th - Diaper Pantry & Clinic closed
 Wed. Jan 1st 2020 Office closed

LECTIONARY FOR THE LORD'S DAY:

12/1- Isa. 2:1-5, Ps. 122, Rom. 13:11-14, Matt. 24:36-44
12/8- Isa. 11:1-10, Ps. 72:1-7, 18-19, Rom. 15:4-13, Matt 3:1-12
12/15- Isa. 35:1-10, Ps. 146:5-10, Luke 1:46b-55, James 5:7-10, Matt. 11:2-11
12/22- Isa. 7:10-16, Ps. 80:1-7, 17-19, Rom. 1:1-7, Matt. 1:18-25
12/24- Isa. 9:2-7, Ps. 96, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14, 15-20
12/25- Isa. 62:6-12, Ps. 97, Titus 3:4-7, Luke 2:1-20, Isa. 52:7-10, Ps. 98, Heb. 1:1-12, John 1:1-4
12/29- Isa. 63:7-9, Ps. 148, Heb. 2:10-18, Matt. 2:13-23

Marilyn Miller's new address

C/O Masonville
 150 Northshore Dr Rm 117
 Coldwater, MI

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Claude Coleman	12/02
George Long	12/17
Marilyn Miller	12/19
Jay Cole	12/19
Peter Rufenacht	12/20
Randy Zorn	12/22
Christine Doll	12/23

ANNIVERSARIES

Jerry & Karen Maxson	12/19	20
John & Lois Swanson Sr.	12/23	69
Dean & Lois Williams	12/23	58

THANK YOU~

Words are not enough to express my thanks, but hopefully these are a start. I am truly moved by your thoughts, actions and generosity! All of you are a blessing and I am so grateful to have the support of people like you. For the past 10 years you have showered me with kindness, caring and love and your thoughtfulness is a gift I will always treasure.~ Cindy

THANK YOU SAM PARKER for the beautiful Thanksgiving display for our Worship Service on November 24th, 2019.



Ways to Reach Out... to our Community

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

For December the Branch County Food Item is: Peanut Butter and Kids canned Pasta.

Thank you for your support! Please feel free to bring other items, if you wish, as these items are just a suggestion.

DIAPER PANTRY: Is open on Thursdays from 4pm- 6pm. If you would like to volunteer with this ministry please see or call Beth Montgomery 517-278-5028 or the church office 517-278-6068.

DIAPER PANTRY is in direr need of: Diapers in sizes, 1,2,3, 4 ,5 and size 6. Lotion, baby wash, and baby wipes. Baby wipes go with out with every package of diaper. (A continually need)

The Presbyterian Health Clinic's hours are Thursday from 4 pm to 6:30 pm.
New Volunteers are always welcome!

Thank you for your supporting all of these ministries!

Social Events at FPC



The Stitchers

Meet the First Monday of the month, Bring a friend and whatever project you are working on! It can be any project, prayer shawl ,beading, wreaths or card making, any craft... you get the picture?....It is about the Fellowship! Meeting Dates: Nov 4th and Dec. 2nd, 2019 If you have been thinking you would like to make a prayer shawl and don't know how, there are ladies here that would be glad to help you.



The Under Covers Quilters's Schedule:

November 19.

There isn't a gathering in December here at the church
Please join us for a FUN time!

Recipes~

Caramel Apple Cheesecake

Cindy Fickle

Ingredients

For the crust (I just bought a graham crackers crust)

1 1/2 cups of finely ground graham crackers (about 12 crackers)

1/3 cup sugar

6 tbsp. butter, melted

For the cheesecake

2 cans (21 oz. each) apple pie filling, chopped into smaller pieces (cook this down and blend it so it is more like apple sauce. Let it cool then beat it with the cream cheese. I think it makes the filling smoother)

2 pkg. (8 oz. each) cream cheese, softened

2/3 cup sugar

1 tub (16 oz.) whipped topping, thawed

1/4 cup caramel topping sauce

Instructions

In a medium bowl, combine the graham crackers, sugar and melted butter. Press the mixture into a 9x13-in. baking dish. Chill the crust while preparing the cheesecake layer.

Beat apples, cream cheese and sugar in a large bowl until smooth. Gently stir in the whipped topping. Spread over the prepared crust. Refrigerate 4 hours or until set.

Spoon caramel topping sauce evenly over the top of the cheesecake or spoon it on individual portions. Store any leftovers in the refrigerator.

Velma

Merry Christmas

Cheryl

Cindy

Roh

Lunice

Julie

Rita

Ruby

Debby



Sam

From: The Staff

Tips for baking better Christmas cookies

Cookies and other baked treats are everywhere come the holiday season. It's not uncommon to give cookies as gifts or arrive at holiday gatherings with cakes and other decadent desserts.

Cookies are a classic holiday treat, and some families even build entire traditions around baking Christmas cookies.

Novice bakers making cookies for the first time may be a little overwhelmed when perusing recipes. Baking is a science, and sometimes it takes practice to get the results just right. However, there are some tips that can help yield better, buttery bounties.

Handle butter with care

Butter can make or break a cookie recipe, as butter is often the glue that holds the cookie together. Therefore, it is key to follow the directions carefully regarding how to handle butter. Smithsonian.com says to leave butter at room temperature for 30 to 60 minutes to properly soften it. This takes patience, but fiddling with butter too much can damage its delectable integrity. While purists may say butter is best, margarine may be acceptable if it has a high fat content; otherwise,



cookies may spread out and flatten. When it comes time to cream the butter with sugar, be sure to do so thoroughly to incorporate air into the butter and remove the grainy texture of the sugar.

Measure flour properly

Measuring flour the right way can ensure cookies come out right. The Cooking Channel says to spoon the flour lightly into a dry measuring cup, then level it off with a knife. Do not dip the measuring cup into the flour or tap the knife against the cup. This will pack too much flour into the measuring cup and result in dry, tough cookies.

Slow down the eggs

Add eggs one at a time to make sure each will emulsify properly with the fat in the butter. Adding eggs en masse may cause the emulsification

to fail.

Chill out

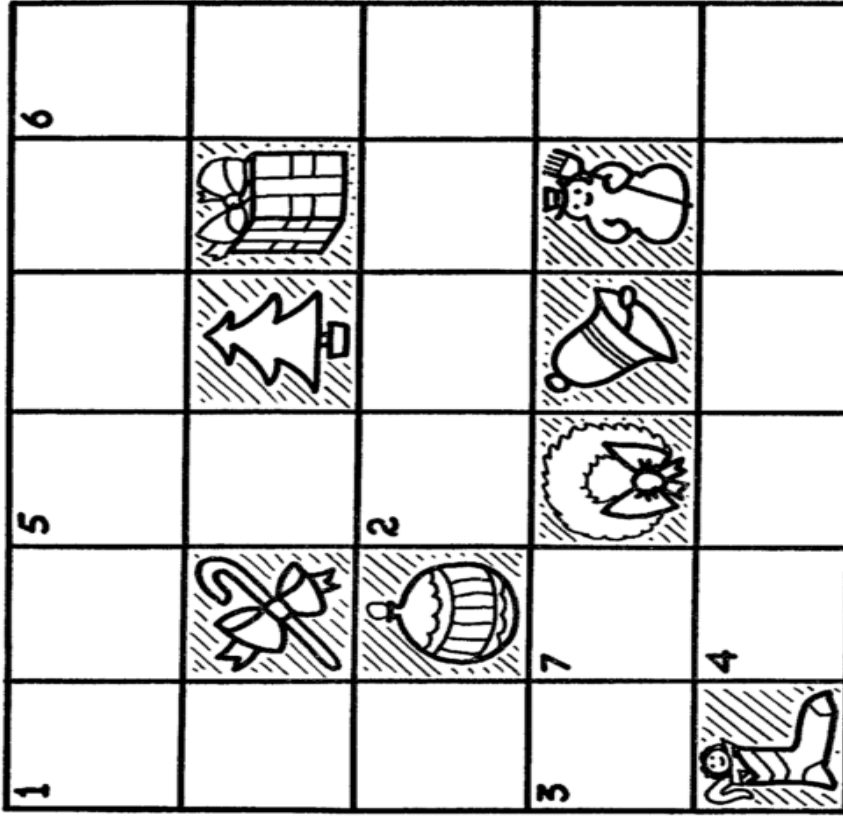
Follow recipes that call for chilling cookie dough carefully. This process is important for making sliced and shaped cookies. By chilling, the dough becomes more malleable for rolling and even slicing.

Use a bottom rack

Too much heat may compromise cookie integrity. The food experts say to try moving cookies onto a lower rack in the oven if they aren't retaining their shape when baked. Put an empty cookie sheet on the top rack. That will block the cookies from the most intense heat that rises to the top of the oven. Mastering cookies takes a little patience and some trial and error. Once bakers get their feet wet, Christmas-cookie-baking becomes even more special.

Kids Connection...

CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



ACROSS

DOWN

1. Aholly-----

1-Make a ---

2---the stockings

5-Santa's helper

3-Santa's laugh, ho,--

6-Boughs of----


4-----New Year

7---Goody!

Coloring & Activity Pages by: HonkingDonkey.com

A B C D E F G H I J K L
 △ ♥ ♦ ☆ ● ★ ◆ ○ ✕ ☆
 N O P R S T V W Y
 ■ ❄ ☾ ⬢ ✦ ✧ ✨

I bring you

of great  that will be for

Today in the

town of David a _____ has _____

been _____ to you; he is _____

the

December 2019



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
52 MARSHALL STREET
COLDWATER, MI 49036

December 2019
NEWSLETTER



Come Join Us On Sunday

10:30 am ~Worship Service
11:45 am~ Coffee and Fellowship Hour

Child Care Provided
Handicapped accessible building

Meet our Church Staff

INTERIM PASTOR, *Rev. Deb Semon-Scott*
MUSIC DIRECTOR, *Samuel Parker*
ACCOMPANIST, *Ruby Merkle*
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

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cindypresby@hotmail.com for Administrative Assistant**

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