

**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:**

LaMar Livensparger

**LITURGIST:**

1/5- Julie Lewis  
1/12- Lorie Hershberger  
1/19- Bruce Gregory  
1/26- Tarina Macklem

**COUNTERS:**

Bob Stewart  
Beth Montgomery  
Sally Whitten

**DIAPER PANTRY WORKERS**

1/2- Closed  
1/9- Eunice & Cindy  
1/16- Chris & Jan  
1/23- Bob & Linda  
1/27- Dean & Lois

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~**

12/1- \$3252.00  
12/8- \$2732.70  
12/15- \$2807.50  
12/22- \$2,003.50

**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???

What has Happened to our year??

It seems to have gone bye in a flash, the blink of an eye !

Once again, the Ladies High Tea and Boutique was a great success due to their devotion and numerous hours of hard work. Thanxs to the many hands that makes this event a possibility.

Fourteen of us went to the Sauk Theater's presentation of Dickens, Christmas Carol. We then gathered back at the house for food and great fellowship. Friday the 13th is our trip to Turkeyville for their Christmas luncheon theater. Thanxs Chris C. for organizing this event.

Don't forget the Christmas Cantata hosted by the UMC at 6:30 pm on 21 December.

The holidays can be a difficult time for folks. There are many types of loss that we experience in Life. Memories of days gone by seem to rush in upon us especially at Christmas. If you find yourself in this situation, know that you / we have been invited to participate in a Blue Christmas Service at the UMC -6pm on Sunday 22 December.

If you are scheduled to work the Diaper Pantry either 26 Dec or 2 January please check with the office. It's my understanding that the Free Clinic will be closed those two Thursdays. If they are closed then so is the DP.

Our 2020 schedule starts again on Monday, 6 January, with Stitchers at 10am.

Our Discussion Group picks up with chapter 8 of Diana Butler-Bass's book, A People's History of Christianity, on Wednesday, 8 January at 10 am. As we have done for the past two years, if CW schools are closed due to weather, we will cancel. If the roads are iffy where you live, don't chance it. We will miss you for group and lunch ( yes, we've been known to extend our morning to include a meal together) BUT your safety and well being comes first.

Don't forget our Christmas Eve Service- 24 December at 7 pm- with a fellowship time to follow.

If the weather is good, I'll be driving to Cleveland on Christmas Day to be with Sarah & her family. I'll return on Saturday 28 December. I can almost always be reached on my cell phone if you need me. Don't hesitate to call.

A most Blessed Christmas to you! God's Peace and Love, deb



# Session and Deacon News

## SUMMARY OF SESSION MEETING THURSDAY DECEMBER 19, 2019

We had a quorum of 6 of our 9 board members in attendance.

Rev Jim Hegedus as Moderator  
Bruce Gregory from Facilities  
Pastor Deb Semon-Scott

The meeting opened at 6:00 PM with a Devotion from Kent United Methodist Church, Kent Ohio read by Rev. Jim Hegedus. Clerk Lewis read a request from Cindy Fickle for the Humane Society to use our parking lot January 18<sup>th</sup> for a fund raiser for the Humane Society. They build dog Houses and then volunteers spend the night. This request was approved. They did this in 2015 also.

Bruce Gregory was in attendance to go over final figures on the Calvin Hall roof repair and the spring work to be done for drainage in the parking lot and repairs to our sidewalks to be done by Parrish Excavating. The Calvin Hall roof work has been completed as of this afternoon. The work on the eaves on the south side of the church may begin next week weather permitting.

Clerk Lewis reported that the funds left over from purchasing poinsettias will go to sheers for the lounge windows.

We had a discussion as to where our Christmas Eve offering should go. Last year it went to Jacobs Well, two years ago it was split between the Diaper Pantry and Back Pack Buddies within the schools. After learning how many families come weekly to the Diaper Pantry and the number of diapers wipes washes going out,

it was unanimous that Christmas Eve offering will go to the Diaper Pantry and its help to the community.

We were happy to hear that Rev. Jim Hegedus' wife's health is back on track with all reports coming back clean.

Our meeting adjourned with prayer at 7:10 PM Our next Session Board meeting will be Thursday January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Julie Lewis  
Clerk of Session

## DEACONS

### NEXT DEACON MEETING: JANUARY 19, 2020

Following the worship service

### DEACON IN CHARGE:

Bob Stewart

### COMMUNION SERVERS ON JAN 19TH

Julie Lewis, LaMar Livensparger

### USHERS & GREETERS:

January 5th Doris & Norm Heinemann,  
Lorie & Paul Herschberger

January 12th Nancy & Bruce Gregory, Joe  
Rufenacht, Joe Best

January 19th Peter & Carol Rufenacht and girls

January 26th Dick & Mary Daniels,  
Luella Senker, Velma Cole

### † The shut-ins:

*Duane and Vera Rufenacht*  
531 Tompkins Dr.  
Coldwater, MI



# FPC Presbyterian Women

It is hard to believe that January is here already. The women of the First Presbyterian Church have been very busy.

We had a very successful Christmas Tea in early December. 125 ladies from 10 churches attended. We had a program in the Sanctuary. We learned the stories behind the Carols. What a great sound we all made in singing those Carol's. With the help of many of our church women, we had a delightful tea and boutique. This was made possible with the work of many volunteers from the congregation. We want to give thanks to all the women who gave their time and talents to make this a wonderful success.

We continue working on prayer shawls. Some are donating yarn. Some are knitting. Some are crocheting. We feel that this is an idea worth sharing. If you'd be interested in making shawls, need a pattern to follow, or just donating yarn for the cause, please contact the church office for more information. We are all working in different ways to help those in our church who might be in need of prayers. This is a wonderful mission for the women of First Presbyterian Church! Both Circles continue with our monthly Bible study, Love Carved in Stone. It is a study of the ten commandments in the Bible and in our lives!

We wish you a peaceful, restful, time with family and friends heading into the new year!

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

---

## FPC's Outreach Report

What an exciting year for the Outreach Committee.

At the beginning of 2019 the Diaper Pantry had served 734 children and 47 adults. With the total support of FPC Congregation the Diaper Pantry supplied 1926 children's diapers and 108 adult diapers in 2019 making the totals since the opening 2660 children and 155 adult.

The Branch County Food Pantry has also had wonderful support from FPC. 1853 pounds of food was collected in 2019. This amount does not include the 1221 cake mixes that were collected for the Holiday Box Challenge!

We may be a small group but we deliver a big impact.  
Beth Montgomery, Bob and Linda Stewart.



## PRAYERS FOR:

- † *Cherie Carnes*, daughter-in-law of Barb Cowden, surgery 12/27 for ovarian cancer.
- † *Brooks Prince*, husband of Bob & Linda Stewarts cousin, facing multiple health issues.
- † *Melissa Gottschalk*- (Lamar Livensparger's daughter) Recovering from surgery
- † *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.*

- 12/1-** † For all the volunteers who helped pack up the Branch County Food Pantry Holiday Boxes.
  - † Having enough.
  - † Family and Friends
  - † FPC staff
  - † Safe travels
- 12/8-** † Another successful P.W. Christmas Tea and Boutique.
  - † The Presbyterian Women
  - † Bob Stewart and Bob Montgomery and their help with the ticket sales!
- 12/15** † Great fellowship at the staff party and at Deb's house Sunday 12-8-2019
  - † The community outreach that the Health Clinic and Diaper Pantry provide.
  - † Being able to help many that need help.
- 12/22** † The Advent Season
  - † Church families everywhere
  - † Jesus, the Best Gift of All
- 12/29** † A beautiful Christmas Eve Service
  - † The beautiful Christmas poinsettias
  - † All the Advent readers
  - † God's only Son!

# 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)

PNC meets on Mondays at 6:30 pm

Monday	1/6-	10 am Stitchers group
Wednesday	1/8	10 am Book Discussion
Sunday	1/12	Chili & Soup Potluck
Monday	1/13	10 am Deborah Circle
Tuesday	1/14	7 pm Sarah Circle
Wednesday	1/15	10 am Book Discussion
Thursday	1/16	4 pm- Clinic & Diaper Pantry
Saturday	1/18	Church rented for Humane Society Event
Sunday	1/19	Communion Sunday
Sunday	1/19	Deacon Meeting
Tuesday	1/21	7 pm Under Cover Quilters
Wednesday	1/22	10 am Book Discussion
Thursday	1/23	4 pm- Clinic & Diaper Pantry
Wednesday	1/29	10 am Book Discussion
Thursday	1/30	4 pm- Clinic & Diaper Pantry

## LECTIONARY FOR THE LORD'S DAY:

1/5-

*Jer.31:7-14, Ps. 147:12-20, Eph. 1:3-14, John 1:(1-9)10-18.*

1/12-

*Isa. 42:1-9, Ps. 29, Acts 10:34-42, Matt. 3:13-17*

1/18-

*Isa.49:1-7, Ps. 40:1-11, 1Cor.1:1-9, John 1:29-23*

1/26-

*Isa. 9:1-4, Ps. 27:1,4-9, 1 Cor.1:10-18, Matt 4:12-23*

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### BIRTHDAYS

Chad Sexton	01/12
Elizabeth Long	01/13
Bob Stewart	01/13
Julie Zorn	01/20
Duane Rufenacht	01/23
Cindy Fickle	01/23
Beth Montgomery	01/29
David Best	01/29
Kaitlyn Sexton	01/31

Everyone had a wonderful time at the  
P.W. Christmas Tea and Boutique ...  
Some more than others!



A very happy little girl who won the Frozen tree.



# Ways to Reach Out... to our Community

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

**For January** the Branch County Food Item is: Condiments: Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo  
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 Stitches**

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 meet the third Tuesday of each month. Please join us for a FUN time!

# Recipes~

## Chicken Dumpling Soup-

Cindy Fickle

### Ingredients

4- chicken breast, cut in bite pieces and browned  
2- stalks of celery, sliced  
3- medium size carrots. sliced  
4- medium potatoes, cut in bite size pieces  
1- small to medium onion chopped  
2 tbs parsley  
1 large carton of chicken broth or gluten free chicken broth  
1 to 2 cups Bisquick, or Gluten Free Bisquick, follow the instructions on the box for dumplings

### Directions

Sauté in olive oil the chicken, onion, celery, carrots and potatoes in a large soup pan. Add the broth and bring to a low boil, add parsley. Roll the Bisquick mixture into small balls and drop the balls into the broth. Let cook until all vegetables are tender. If the broth gets thicker than you like after the dumplings has cooked for awhile add more broth or water to thin it out.

Soups●●●Soups●●●Soups●●Soups●●● Soups●●●Soups●●●Soups●●Soups●●● Soups●●●Soups

## Loaded Baked Potato Soup

Cindy Fickle

### Ingredients

12 slices bacon  
2/3 cup margarine  
2/3 cup all-purpose flour or gluten free flour  
7 cups milk  
4 large baked potatoes, peeled and cubed

4 green onions, chopped  
1 1/4 cups shredded Cheddar cheese  
1 cup sour cream  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon ground black pepper

### Directions

Place bacon in a large, deep skillet. Cook over medium heat until browned. Drain, crumble, and set aside. In a stock pot or Dutch oven, melt the margarine over medium heat. Whisk in flour until smooth. Gradually stir in milk, whisking constantly until thickened. Stir in potatoes and onions. Bring to a boil, stirring frequently. Reduce heat, and simmer 10 minutes. Mix in bacon, cheese, sour cream, salt, and pepper. Continue cooking, stirring frequently, until cheese is melted.



# Lasagna Soup

Cindy Fickle

The tomato-y broth, brimming with sausage & pasta, melts the mix of cheeses placed in each bowl before serving; a quick swirl of the spoon ensures a bit of gooey cheese in every bite...

## Ingredients:

2 tsp Olive oil

1 ½ lb Sweet Italian sausage (casings removed)

2 Onions, finely chopped

4 Garlic cloves, minced

2 tsp Oregano

½ tsp Red paper flakes

2 T Tomato paste

1 28-oz can, diced tomatoes

6 cups Chicken broth

2 Bay leaves

8 oz Fusilli pasta (cooked and rinsed with cold water) (Or any Gluten free pasta)

½ cup Fresh basil, finely chopped

8 oz Ricotta

½ cup Grated Parmesan

¼ tsp Salt

Pinch Pepper

2 cups Shredded mozzarella

## Directions:

In a large pot heat olive oil over medium heat

Add sausage and sauté, breaking into small pieces with wooden spoon, until sausage is no longer pink (5-7 minutes)

Add onions and sauté until softened (about six minutes)

Add garlic, oregano, and red pepper flakes, and sauté for one minute

Add tomato paste and sauté until paste turns a rusty brown (about four minutes)

Add tomatoes with their juice, the broth and the bay leaves and bring the soup to a boil

Reduce heat and simmer for about 30 minutes

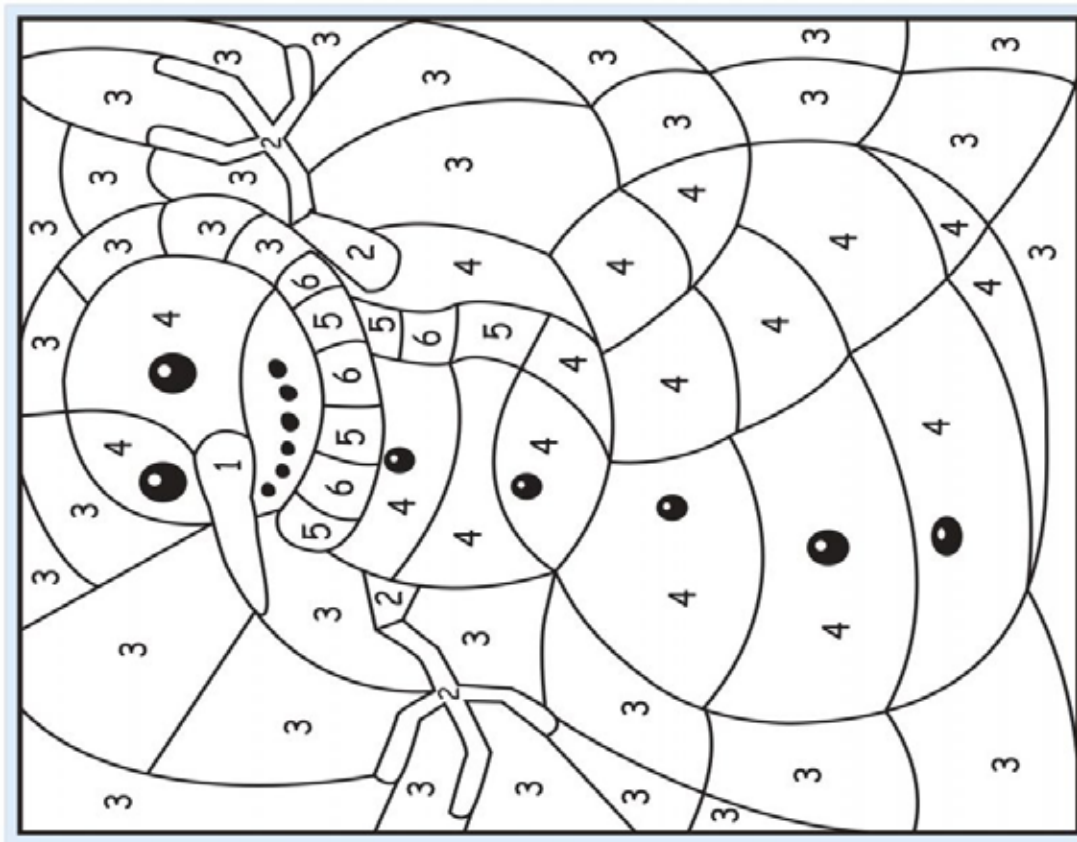
Stir in basil, then simmer 10-15 minutes

In a small bowl, combine ricotta, parmesan, ¼ tsp of salt and pinch of pepper

To serve, place 1 ½ T or ricotta mixture in each serving bowl, sprinkle with a little mozzarella, and ladle soup on top

Note: This is one of my husbands favorite soups.

# Kids Connection...



## Winter Word Search

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

Word List:

MITTENS	COLD	SNOWMAN	WINTER	SLED
SNOW	ICE	HOLIDAY	COATS	HATS





# January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Sunday</i> <b>SCHEDULE</b></p> <p>9:15 am Adult Sunday School    10:30 am Worship Service 9:15 am Children Activity Center    11:30 am Coffee Hour</p>			1	2 Clinic and Diaper Pantry Closed	3	4
5	6 10 am—Stitchers	7	8 10am Book Discussion	9 4-6pm Diaper Pantry 4-6:30 pm Clinic	10	11
12 Chili and Soup Potluck during coffee hour	13 10am—Deborah's Cir.	14 7pm—Sarah Cir.	15 10am Book Discussion	16 4-6pm Diaper Pantry 4-6:30 pm Clinic 6pm—Session Mtg.	17	18 Church Rented 6pm-6am Freezin for a Reason Humane Society of Branch County Event
19 Communion	20	21 7pm Undercover Quilters	22 10am Book Discussion	23 4-6pm Diaper Pantry 4-6:30 pm Clinic	24	25
26 Deacon Mtg following The Worship Service	27 9:30 am Co-Or	28	29 10am Book Discussion	30 4-6pm Diaper Pantry 4-6:30 pm Clinic	31	

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
52 MARSHALL STREET  
COLDWATER, MI 49036

January 2020  
NEWSLETTER

*January*  
**2020**

### **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*  
*Pastor Robert Barton*

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**

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

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

**Rev. Deborah Semon-Scott: Cell: 517-610-9039 Email: [dsemonscott@yahoo.com](mailto:dsemonscott@yahoo.com) Phone: 517-849-9593**