



# First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth

## November 2020

### Taymouth Tidings

#### Welcome!

Sunday Worship—9:30am

Rev. John Scott Kroener, Pastor

Sarah Schriber— Secretary, Heidi Smith— Music/Choir Director

Christine Callender—Clerk of Session, Tiffany Fortier—Treasurer

Dawn Patrick—Financial Secretary and Christian Education Director

Floyd Roebuck—Youth Director, Paul Fortier—Custodian

12517 Morseville Rd Birch Run, MI 48415

Telephone: 989-624-9473, Fax: 989-624-4904

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Connect on Facebook: Taymouth Presbyterian Church

#### Indoor Service Format

Upon Arrival—Only the South and East Entrances will be used to enter the church. Depending on preference and total attendance, you will be ushered either to the Sanctuary or to the Fellowship hall. Social distancing is in place in both areas. Please keep your coat with you. After the service, we ask that you wait to be dismissed. Hand Sanitizer and masks are available. Thank you!

**MASKS ARE  REQUIRED**

#### Joys and Concerns

Prayer needs are on-going for Bea Savage, Debbie Minard, Abigail Peters, and Elsie Gajewski. Please keep them in your prayers and many others during this time. The church office is available to receive your joys and concerns.

Thank you to Ken and Kathy Maurer for providing some really large pumpkins to our congregation! The Pumpkins have helped decorate our church yard as well.



Give  
thanks  
with a  
grateful  
heart



#### Thank you!

Bea Savage would like to Thank everyone for all the prayers, calls, cards, and well wishes during this time of illness. She is so very thankful for her church family.

#### Church Office Hours

We are here for you!

Please call the church with any concerns or prayers. The office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, from 9:00am to 1:00pm. (989) 624-9473.

#### Food Pantry

Please remember our local Food Pantry at the Ss Francis and Clare Catholic church is in need of donations! **Some suggested items include chicken soup, tomato soup, canned chicken or tuna, ramen noodles, juices, boxed potatoes, canned peas and carrots, and dry powdered milk. You may drop off items at our church during office hours.**

#### Prayer Circle

To activate the church's prayer circle, call Cindy Rabe at (989) 624-9274. Prayer requests are conveyed by telephone.

#### Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible Studies will be postponed until further notice.

#### First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth

#### OUR VISION

Coming together and growing as a community of believers, glorifying and always being refined by God, reaching out in grace and love to the world.

#### OUR MISSION

FPCT is a community of grace and love in which each person's gifts, talents, and skills are welcomed and valued. We are a household of faith, a people gathered together to worship God, proclaim God's salvation, and to experience an eternal relationship with God.

## Jack-O'-Lantern Trees

What beautiful scenery! Michigan, that is. Clear blue waters. Rolling hills and flat prairies. Bright orange, yellow, red, and green leaves. All this is what Jane and I experienced on our windshield leaf-peeping tour of Michigan. We saw many different picturesque landscapes within the interior of the state and along both Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. Michigan is truly a beautiful state when it comes to autumn. We have never really seen anything like this before. We got a spectacular glimpse of this state's vibrant fall foliage. It was truly breathtaking.

Some of the best leaves and their colors were right in our own backyard, and in our neighborhoods of Taymouth and Genesee Townships. Driving along Sycamore Road, these local vibrant tree colors rivaled the colorful trees along Michigan's own famous historic scenic drive called Tunnel of Trees, between Harbor Springs and Cross Village. I discovered my favorite leaf color is bright orange. What made these leaves stand out is how they hugged their dark wooden branches and limbs on the trees. These orange trees look like huge plump pumpkins on the horizon. When approaching these trees they seem to have carved themselves into abstract tree-like jack-o'-lanterns. I label these brightly orange leafy trees, jack-o'-lantern trees. I was excited to see the many branches and limbs protruding through their blanket of orange leaves and zigzagging everywhere as if they were trying to cover themselves up from getting too cold.

Looking at these particular trees, I imagine Charles Schultz's beloved Peanuts character, Linus, who placed himself every Halloween in the pumpkin patch waiting for the arrival of the Great Pumpkin. For me, the arrival of Linus' Great Pumpkin did not come at Halloween nor did it come in the pumpkin patch, but it did come in seeing autumn's foliage of orange leaves holding onto tree limbs and branches. These jack-o'-lantern trees with their leaves shimmering in the wind depict God's beauty in nature. This was the best part of vacation.

I invite you to take your own windshield tour and experience God in the colors of nature.

Shalom,

Pastor Scott



## Mission Committee News

The month of October we had a mission project for "One Great Hour of Sharing". The funds collected from this will go to the following Presbyterian programs: Disaster Assistance, Hunger Program and Self-Development of People. It has been several years since we gave to this program. There is a great need for so many different assistant programs. Missions would like to thank those who gave to help support the programs.

Collecting of empty "Shoebboxes" has begun for the annual giving we do in November. The empty shoeboxes are ready for pickup on Sunday, November 1, 2020. As in prior years, you were given a list of suggested items along with the empty shoebox. Please returned your filled, unwrapped shoebox by Sunday, November 29, 2020. This will give the Mission Committee time to get them wrapped and delivered before Christmas.

We are hoping we will be able to do the annual "Cookie Walk and Holiday Treat". We want to made this a safe event for everyone so we are working on just how to do this. Masks will be required by those who attend. We plan on placing the items far enough apart so that you will feel safe. If all goes well, the event will be on Saturday, December 19, 2020. Look for more information as we approach the date.

Remember that the "Community Food Pantry" is always in need of items. The drop off station is located at the top of the south stairs. Here are some of the suggested items they can use: Chicken soup, tomato soup, canned chicken or tuna fish, ramen noodles, juices, instant potatoes (box or pouch), scallop potatoes (box), Zataran rice and beans, Rice-A-Roni, canned peas and canned carrots, and dry powdered milk. You may also use a pew envelope for donations to this cause.

Keep reading your newsletters and weekly bulletins for any changes that may occur regarding missions giving and other happenings of our church.

Bonnie Pratt, Mission Committee Chair

1 <b>Sunday</b> Communion Worship Service 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Sunday School	2 Monday	3 Tuesday <b>Building &amp; Grounds</b> <b>7:00 pm</b>	4 Wednesday	5 Thursday	6 Friday	7 Saturday
8 Worship Service 9:30 am Sunday School	9	10 <b>Session</b> <b>7:00 pm</b>	11	12		
15 Worship Service 9:30 am Sunday School	16	17 <b>P.W. Meeting</b> <b>1:00 pm</b>	18	19		
22 Worship Service 9:30 am Sunday School	23	24 <b>Thanksgiving Service</b> <b>7:00 pm</b>	25	26 Thanksgiving Day 	27	28
29 <b>Advent</b> Worship Service 9:30 am Sunday School	30		<i>November 2020</i>			

### Christian Education

Welcome to our newest visitor– Sparky! Firebal has invited her here to help him learn about Jesus. We are so glad she has joined us. So far, we know that she is not a fan of candy like Firebal!

We are so excited to resume Sunday School on Sunday, November 1, following worship service in the Fellowship hall. Firebal and Sparky hope to meet all of you!

On, Sunday, October 25, we visited the Montrose Orchards for a beautiful afternoon of fall fun! We had our own fire pit, hay ride, donuts and cider, and picked out the biggest pumpkins we could carry! Thank you to Montrose Orchards for being such gracious hosts and we look forward to next year!

God Bless, Dawn Patrick, CE Director



Firebal & Sparky



Peter R.



The Roebuck Family



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

Presbyterian Women will meet on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship hall. Note the date change due to Thanksgiving week.

### Member Care

#### “REACH UP, REACH OUT, REACH ALL”

On September 27, Member Care gathered to make military Christmas cards. What a wonderful day of fun, fellowship, and crafting. These ladies are serious crafters! They came armed with every type of card making implement. 139 total cards were made! The cards were beautiful, watch out Hallmark. This will be an annual event. Each of you humble me. You are so willing to do something different and new.

Member Care continues to send cards to our Military Buddies and Homebound Church Family. Cards are sent each month. Do you know someone who isn't on our list? Please let us know.

Thank you! Holly Wendzik, Member Care Chair

## News from the Clerk's Desk

The following items were discussed and approved at the October's Session meeting.

Per Capita will be \$28.76 for 2021.

A successful outdoor movie night was held on September 25, 2020.

Bids are being obtained to take the tree down in front of the church as it is rotten on the inside.

Pastor's vacation is from October 14, 2020 through October 27, 2020. Guest speakers will be Sharon Peters and Rob Minard. When Pastor returns, he will be bringing a new visitor.

Approved to leave Bibles and Hymnals out of church until guidelines change.

Approved to continue humming one verse of the hymn until the November meeting. Will reevaluate at that time.

Approved to still go to Montrose Orchard and to allow all families to make their own choice by letting them know what Montrose Orchard guidelines are regarding masks.

Approved to resume Sunday School in the fellowship hall with masks and social distancing.

Member care made 139 Christmas cards to send out to the military.

\$1,100 received from Presbytery from technology grant. There is still another \$1,400 we can apply for. We are continuing to work with Jason Ward of Jigsaw Jams to get the rest of our tech equipment.

Tiffany and Dawn need budget information by November 10, 2020. So they can review the budget for next year.

Reviewed member list for per capita purposes. Session members to reach out to inactive members.

Annual reports are due December 29, 2020.

Next meeting is November 10, 2020.

Christine Callender, Clerk of Session

\*\*For a complete list of all items discussed at the Session meeting, please contact the church office or the Clerk of Session.

## THE CLIPPER CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the winner of the drawing to select the style of haircut Pastor Scott was to receive- Dick Leach. We all watched with anticipation as Holly Wendzik worked her magic. Thank you to everyone who supported this Fundraiser!!



Before



During.....



After



First, I want to thank everyone for the words of thanks and the praise that you have given me for live streaming. It's been difficult, there have been lots of challenges. I have been doing my best to overcome them with the help of a lot of people.

**As we continue forward with live streaming, I will be looking for a couple of volunteers to help me in case there is a time where I am unable to be there or need a vacation. Someone to learn the basics so that there's no disruption in our streaming. If you know of anyone, please have them contact me.**

There will be a Social Media meeting on November 5, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. at the church. Please join us if you are able.

I am looking for 4 ideas for fundraisers for next year. Please let me know what your ideas are. The proceeds will be going towards a new sound system for our church. The upgrade is much needed.

In coordination with the Christian Education committee, we are putting together a Christmas video. Please watch for updates. The dates for taping will be posted in the bulletin, on Facebook, and on the website. If you have any questions, please see Dawn Patrick or Christine Callender.

Christine Callender, Social Media

## SHOEBOXES FOR SAGINAW

Once again Taymouth Presbyterian Church will be participating in Shoeboxes for Saginaw. This is our 9th year of helping women. Last year over 30 boxes were filled by the women in our church and were given to women in the Saginaw community who may not be as fortunate as we are, are unemployed, or may be experiencing difficulty in their life and find they are lonely or hurting from life's challenges. Some of the agencies that receive the shoeboxes are: The Salvation Army, Emmaus House, East Side Soup Kitchen, McNally House, Ascension House (Emerson House), Rescue Mission, Underground Railroad and many others.

PLEASE NOTE: THE TOPS OF THE BOXES NEED TO CLOSE. YOU ARE ALL SO GENEROUS WITH LOTS OF WONDERFUL ITEMS, BUT WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO CLOSE THE BOX AND WRAP IT.

What you pack into your shoebox can be as unique as you are but please make sure the items are NEW and have some gift appeal to them. NO PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS. AVOID BULKY ITEMS SUCH AS SHAWLS OR TOWELS. Here is a list that will help you. Do Not feel that you have to provide all of these items. Some suggestions for the shoebox: full size bottle of shampoo, brush, comb, toothbrush & paste, deodorant, nail file, perfume, lotion, watch, small notebook & pen, book, hat, gloves, socks, non-perishable candy, small sewing kit, calendar, Kleenex, coin purse, bracelet, scarf.

**The deadline for shoeboxes will be November 29th. Do not wrap the box. Mission Committee will do the wrapping.**

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Kathy Rogers at (989) 624-5700 or [klrog2001@yahoo.com](mailto:klrog2001@yahoo.com).



## SUNDAY SHEPHERD

The Session continues to implement our church's Emergency Response and Safety Plan. The Sunday Shepherd will oversee and monitor the safety of our congregation, and will be the primary person responsible to call 911 in case of an emergency. In order to make this plan work, the Session is in need of volunteers who will serve as a Sunday Shepherd. A complete information form can be found in the Office.

Thank you to **Floyd Roebuck** for volunteering in **November**.

Robert Minard, Chair of Emergency and Disaster Committee.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING



## Stewardship

Thank you to everyone who have been so faithful in paying your per-capita! If you have not been able to pay yet, there is still time. Please prayerfully consider sending in your \$29.00 before the end of the year.

Per Capita has been a part of our funding history for over 150 years. When Presbyteries, Synods, and the General Assembly meet, they are conducting the legislative and judicial business of the church. Per capita is used to fund these governing councils that represent us. The whole church shares in this expense since everyone who is a member shares in the benefits of this system of church government. Per capita provides for the financial participation of all local churches, thus providing for unity and mutual responsibility within the church.

The 2020 Per Capita cost per member is \$29.00. As of October, we have collected \$2199.00. Our total cost due is \$3944.00. Within the last two months of the year, the remaining balance will be divided into equal payments of \$487.25.

Thank you and God bless you all!  
Dawn Patrick, Financial Secretary

## "Guess Who?" - November 2020

Can you guess who this person is? Put your answer and your name on the paper provided in the jar at the south entrance table. Good luck!

1. What is your favorite Hymn and why?  
A: "In the Garden", It takes me back to when I was young.
  2. Where were you born? A: Flint.
  3. What is your favorite Bible verse and why?  
A: John 3:16, the words.
  4. Are you married? A: Widowed.
  5. Who would you invite to have breakfast with?  
A: The President.
  6. Where did you go to school/Are you still attending?  
A: Farwell, and not attending.
  7. Where do you work and what do you do?  
A: Retired, I play cards and spend time with my family.
  8. What are you working towards?  
A: Nothing, I am content.
  9. How many siblings do you have? A: Three.
  10. How many are in your family or at same address?  
A: One.
- Thank you! Member Care

## Building and Grounds

Thank you to Adam and Heidi Smith for helping move furniture, Ken Maurer for end of year lawn maintenance, and to Gary Brabant for painting the outdoor stairwell on the North side of Church. Thank you to Pete McIntosh for replacing the window in the Fellowship hall. Want to help? We would love your help! Please call Gary Brabant, Chair of Building and Grounds.



## Church Membership

Membership with First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth is for anyone who acknowledges Jesus Christ as their Lord and accepts him as their Savior. An invitation to join with us is cordially extended to any person who wishes to join us in glorifying God and building friendships with other followers of Christ. Please contact Pastor Scott for more information.



National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is pleased to announce a new Family Support Group in Frankenmuth. This is a confidential support group for loved ones of individuals living with mental illness. Through the NAMI Family Support Group, you can find hope and support by connecting with others who face similar challenges. You will gain support from peers who understand your experiences as well as insight into the challenges and successes of others. Monthly meetings are on the 2nd Monday of every month. For more information, call (810) 232-6498.



## Sarah's Closet

Our mission provides adult clothing for men and women! Clothing items include: shoes, socks, dresses, pants, shirts, coats, and undergarments. Call the Birch Run United Methodist Church at (989) 624-9340 for hours of operation. The church is located at 12265 Church St, Birch Run.

## Birch Run Baby Pantry

Christ Lutheran Church of Birch Run, located at 8101 Poellet St, is host to the local Baby Pantry. Call the church office at (989) 624-9378 for hours of operation. All recipients must fill out a form to receive items.

## Food Pantry

Ss. Francis & Clare Catholic Church is host to a Community Food Pantry. Hours are Monday, 9:00 am to 11:30 am, Wednesday from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, or by appointment. Please call (989) 624-9098 for more information. Church is located at 12157 Church St., Birch Run. Donations are also welcome!

# Anytime is the right time for PC(USA) Special Offerings



Pictured from left to right: Janette Gonzales, Pastor Scott Kroener, Cindy Maher and Jim Maher of First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth in Birch Run, Michigan. (Photo by Kathy Maurer) Picture taken 2018.

Because of our work with 'One Great Hour of Sharing' this past month, there's a great article on the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) website about Special Offerings that features our own Birch Run-Taymouth, Pastor Scott, and Elder Kathy Maurer.

"If we all give a little — a cup of coffee a couple of times a week — together we can make an impact. That is what it means to be the connectional church." - Kathy Maurer, elder at Taymouth Presbyterian Church in Birch Run, Michigan, and Presbyterian Mission Agency Board

Acknowledging the collective impact small gifts can make, small church designates October to support One Great Hour of Sharing. If there can be Christmas in July, why not Easter in October? Or Palm Sunday, for that matter?

Reconfiguring the traditional and liturgical calendar was precisely what the First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth in Birch Run, Michigan, did after Bonnie Pratt, who chairs the church's Mission Committee, originally approached the session back in February 2020. Pratt's proposal that the congregation receive One Great Hour of Sharing during Lent ended up being sidelined. That is, until now.

*To read the article please visit our website ([taymouthchurch.com](http://taymouthchurch.com)),  
or find the print outs on the table near the south entrance.*



**First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth**  
**12517 Morseville Road**  
**Birch Run, MI 48415**

*Plant Blessings, Harvest Blessings!*