

First Things

We're Everybody's Church. What does that really mean?

As Everybody's Church, we strive to be a faithful, open and inclusive community. We welcome the participation of all people of any ability, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or any other life circumstance.

Statement of Discipleship

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we live and grow in God's Word as peacemakers, faithful stewards, and compassionate neighbors.

Today's Events

Youth and CrossWalks

All Abilities Inclusion Ministry

Childcare available:

Infants-Walkers.....	Room 109/111
2-year-olds.....	Room 102
Worship Wonder (3 & 4-year-olds).....	Room 217-218
K-5th Grade	Parable Place
6th-8th Grade	Remain in Worship
AAIM Young Adult.....	Room 231
8:30am Worship	Chapel
10:00 Worship	Sanctuary

Announcement

I wanted to let the congregation know I have decided to retire at the end of this year, effective 12/31/19. This has not been an easy decision to make.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve this church for over 25 years, the past six as an ordained pastor. It has been the most rewarding and spiritually fulfilling experience of my life, and I only wish I had answered the call to ordained ministry sooner. I look forward to continuing my relationship with this congregation - just from a different seat in the Sanctuary.

Blessings,
Rev. Joanne Blair

Mission

Cereal for Summer

Final day for Donations is August 25

Kids who rely on free or reduced-priced breakfast and lunch at school often go without enough to eat during the summer. Join our CEREAL FOR SUMMER campaign so that children can start each day with breakfast. Every box you donate will be given to families in need through Lighthouse of Oakland County and our partners throughout the Presbytery of Detroit. Bring your cereal to the donation room near the Welcome Center and place them on the Deacons' Food Pantry shelves. Donations will be distributed throughout the summer months.

Backpack Packing Party

Thursday, August 15, 6pm, Calvin Hall

Our annual backpack packing party needs your help. We need 200 backpacks for second graders! You can help by attending a free dinner for the whole family and bring a

backpack (or 5) with you. Tip: Five Below has great bags for \$5. OR If you can't make the packing party, you can make a donation to the program. Checks can be made out to FPC with "school supplies" in the memo. Thank you for considering helping these kids start the school year on the right foot! Sign up for the dinner outside Calvin Hall.

Deacons Pantry Benefits Common Ground in August

Common Ground is a 24-hour crisis services agency dedicated to helping youths, adults, and families in crisis. They are requesting undergarments and socks in all sizes, common toiletries, household cleaning supplies and paper products, garbage bags, umbrellas, common pantry items, and snacks in individual packages. A complete list is in the donation center. Learn more at commongroundhelps.org.

Inclusion

Rejoicing Spirits

The next service is August 25 at 5pm in Knox Auditorium
Come for lively worship, meet new friends, and experience community. A casual dinner follows worship.

Community

It's Time for a New Church Photo Directory!

We're excited to announce that we will be working with a new company on our new Photo Directory for the church. Photo dates available are September 19, 20 and 21. Photo directories help us get to know one another better and are a wonderful gift for new members. You don't have to be a member to participate! Everyone who participates will receive a free 8 x 10 photo. There are no sitting fees and you can purchase photos with no sales pressure. Sign up online or at coffee hour. Please see flyers for details!

Chris Gannon and Sara Scott's Wedding

Saturday, August 17, 11:00am, St. James Episcopal Church
Your presence is requested at the marriage of Pastor Chris and Sara, at St. James Episcopal Church (355 W. Maple Rd). They are so excited to share this moment with their family of faith. A cake and bubbly reception will follow after the service.

Summer Youth Event

Saturday, August 24, 7pm-Midnight

This summer's youth event will be something new and incredible! We will be Glow in the Dark Bowling and then we will go to a drive-in movie theater and experience a movie outdoors! Bring a lawn chair, a friend, and \$10 a person for this fun filled day! With games and movies and new friendships, this year's youth event will be one to remember.

First Theater Guild Presents Aladdin, Jr. the Musical

Tryouts in Knox Auditorium on

Sunday, September 8, 2:00–4:00pm & Monday,

September 9, 6:30-8:00 pm

Looking for 1st-12th graders. Pick up your audition music in the FPC welcome center after August 18th and join us for one of the tryout dates.

First Things

Performances are November 1, 2, 3.

Any questions? Contact Mike Caldwell at miketedc@yahoo.com or Mary Walters, maryafry@aol.com

Senior Adventures—Shrine of the Little Flower

Wednesday, September 11, meet at church at 10:45am, back about 3pm

Guided tour of the National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica in Royal Oak followed by lunch at Hazel, Ravines and Downtown Kitchen, No charge for the tour, but donations to the church are appreciated. Questions? Call Donna Zabowski at 248.548.7614

CROP Walk 2019

Sunday, September 22, Check In 1:30pm, Start at 2:00pm

There are walks of 1.5, 3.0 and 5.0 miles, all of which start at the First United Methodist Church and end at our church with Ray's Ice Cream and music by Roger Blair. The CROP Walk is held to raise money for Church World Service to end hunger locally and globally. If you would like to participate, please sign up outside Calvin Hall. You can also sponsor walkers. If you have questions, please contact Mike Caldwell at miketedc@yahoo.com.

Howell Nature Center Passes Available to Borrow

Borrow one of our family passes to this 230 acre nature center for FREE. It is open 10:00am-5:00pm, seven (7) days a week. Each pass allows two adults and children under 18 into the center, which includes the Wildlife Park, Alexandria's Naturescape & 7,000 sq. ft Tree House (Wheelchair accessible), Nature Zone and Hiking Trails. See church staff to check out a pass. Find out more about the center at www.howellnaturecenter.org

Be our Advocate on Social Media

You can help the church with only a second of your time each week. If you see something you like on Facebook, like it! Better, choose the heart reaction. Still better yet, comment on the post. Even one emoji as a comment helps the church's page get noticed more. Once Facebook sees people interacting with our posts they will share our stuff with other people FOR FREE!

Youth Programs

Middle school (10am-11am) Students start in worship with their families then depart for the youth room when the younger church is called forward.

Youth Group for ALL youth will meet 5:30-7:30pm on August 18. There will be a lesson, games, fun activities, and social time in the Youth Room.

"Please Keep This Confidential..."

When you say these words to your Stephen Minister, you can be assured of confidence being honored. This is a cornerstone of Stephen Ministry. Nothing you share is revealed. Stephen Ministers don't even tell anyone who their care receiver is. If you, or someone you know, could use a caring confidant, please contact Rev. Joanne Blair at 248.644.2040 ext. 128.

Per Capita Payments

Each year, the Presbyterian Church U.S.A., asks for a designated contribution (Per Capita) from each member to assist with the work and witness of the regional and national church. It provides for the expenses of our local

Presbytery office, the denomination's Office of General Assembly, the national Mission Agency and our biennial denominational meetings. We hope each member will contribute \$29 per person in order that we can support the larger church in all of the amazing things that it does. You should have received an email last week. You can pay online, via text or with a check to FPC. (Text the contribution amount followed by the words "Per Capita" (Ex: \$29 Per Capita) to 248-600-4919.)

First Presbyterian Hand-in-Hand Early Learning Center

The Center is now open for 2019-20 registration. The Center offers age-defined classes for children age 4 months through 6 years. Please contact Heidi Wilkinson, the director, for a tour and/or questions at 248.644.2040 ext. 124 or email at handinhand@everybodyschurch.org.

Ongoing Community Groups

All are welcome to join these groups.

- **Dr. John Judson's Monday Class** (10-11am, Calvin Hall). Class will resume September 9.
- **Youth Choir** (Sundays, 11:15am-Noon, Choir Room.) Rehearsals resume September 15 led by Andrew Herbruck. Questions? Contact Andrew at andrewherbruck@everybodyschurch.org.
- **Knitting Ministry** (Mondays, 10am, Fireside Room.) Come join others who knit and crochet shawls, baby blankets, hats for newborns whose siblings attend HIH, and other projects. Contact Judy Gillow with questions at 248.758.9569.
- **Adult Fitness Class with Pam Smith** (Monday & Friday, 9:30-10:30am, Room 212-213.) Call Pam with questions at 248.632.2355.
- **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** (Weekly, 8:45am, Fireside Room.) Studying Brian McLaren's *A Generous Orthodoxy*.
- **Tuesday Morning Book Club** (3rd Tuesday, 10am, Fireside Room.) August 20: *Everything I Never Told You* by Celeste Ng
- **Tuesday Evening Book Club** (2nd Tuesday, 7pm, Fireside Room.) September 10: *Unsheltered: A Novel* by Barbara Kingsolver
- **FPC Ringers Hand Bell Choir** (Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm, Choir Room.) Rehearsals resume September 10. Contact Andrew Herbruck for more information.
- **Senior Adventures** Monthly outings in the community and beyond. See description under Community for this month's event. Future dates: October 11—Genetti's Hole-in-the-Wall Dinner Theatre, November 13—Epiphany Glass Studio Tour, December 11—Meadowbrook Hall Holiday Tour. Contact Dana Layman (248.877.0083) or Carol Kyburz (248.705.0058) for more information.
- **Women's Bible Study** (3rd Wednesdays, 9:30-10:30am. Room 141-142) Bible Study will resume September 18. Questions? Contact Kim McGlynn.

- **Carol and Chapel Choirs** (Wednesdays, 4:45-5:35pm, New Song Studio.) Rehearsals resume September 11. Andrew Herbruck and Margaret Rees-Baker lead the Carol and Chapel Choirs for K-5th graders.
- **Music Makers** (Wednesdays, 4:45-5:15pm, Youth Room) Class resumes September 11. Samantha Samuels leads this fun introduction to music for Preschoolers.
- **Chancel Choir** (Wednesdays, 7-9pm, Sanctuary) Rehearsals resume September 4. Chancel Choir sings at the Sunday services September-May and special services/concerts throughout the year. Contact Andrew Herbruck with questions.
- **Lunch and Learn** (Thursdays, 11:30am-1pm, Calvin Hall.) Bring a lunch and we provide the beverages and dessert. Lunch and Learn resumes September 19. Presenter: Diane K. Bert, PhD. Hear tales of interesting people in the Birmingham area whom Diane Bert has met or learned about in her years as a correspondent for the Birmingham Eccentric newspaper. Who made contributions to the history of Birmingham? Who lived adventurous lives? Which people were related to prominent Americans?
- **FPC Trombone Choir** (Thursdays, 7:30-9pm, Sanctuary.) Rehearsals resume September 5. Contact Ben Kohns for more info at FPCTbones@gmail.com.
- **Men's Bible & Brew** (3rd Thursdays, 5:45pm, \$5 for dinner.) Next meeting September 19 at John Crawford's home. RSVP for dinner to JC6767@aol.com or 586.770.1959. Contact Stan Evans for more info about the group, lsevans@vmddlaw.com.
- **Discovering Calvin** (Saturdays, 8-9am, Room 141-142.) Join Dr. John Judson in examining the writings of John Calvin found in the four volume work, *The Institutes of the Christian Religion*.

Additional Information

Ask an Usher (accessibility assistance):

See an usher for hearing aid devices, large-print bulletins, cushions and hymnals. There are rocking chairs in the lobby for restless infants, and child care is offered at each service. There is also a lounge in the hallway outside the sanctuary with a closed circuit TV so you can watch the service. There are rocking chairs, chairs and a sofa.

Hearing Aid Connectivity with Loop

Please sit in the middle of the pew if you have a hearing aid for the best sound experience in our sanctuary.

Staying Connected

We are happy to mail copies of bulletins to anyone who needs a copy. Give names and addresses to Jan Peters.

Photography/Video

We may be taking video or photography in the Sanctuary, Chapel and other parts of the church (interior and exterior). By your presence, you grant First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham unrestricted rights to use and publish, transmit or telecast images or a likeness that may be taken of you for use in communication related to the church. If you do not wish to have your image included in any of our communications, please contact Dr. Judson.

Missionaries We Support Through First Foundation

Rev. Cathy Chang and Juan Lopez are mission co-workers based in Manila, Philippines. They are area coordinators for the PCUSA Southeast Asia interdenominational effort to address issues of migration and human trafficking. You can follow them at www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/cathy-chang-and-juan-lopez/

Faith Kasoni is an evangelist and educational advocate of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA), who works with the pastoralist Samburu people.

Weekly Schedule

Monday, August 12

10:00am	Knitting Ministry	Fireside Room
7:00pm	Outreach Ministries	Calvin Hall
7:00	Property Care Ministry	Fireside Room
8:30	AA/AI-anon	216-218

Tuesday, August 13

8:45am	Tuesday Morning Bible Study	Fireside Room
6:00pm	Stephen Ministry	141-142

Wednesday, August 14

10:00am	12 Steps & Beyond	220
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Thursday, August 15

10:00am	AA Women	141-144
6:00pm	Backpack Packing Party	Calvin Hall

Friday, August 16

9:30am	Pam Smith Exercise Class	212-213
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Saturday, August 17

8:00am	Discovering Calvin	141-142
10:30am	George Davidson Memorial Service & Reception	Sanctuary & Calvin Hall

Sunday, August 18

8:30am	Worship	Chapel
10:00	Worship	Sanctuary
5:30pm	All Youth Group	Youth Room

As Presbyterians, we are indebted to John Calvin (1509-1564) as the theological founder of our Reformed tradition. His major work (he was a prolific writer who wrote Biblical commentaries, books and pamphlets) was *The Institutes of the Christian Religion*. First published in 1536, it is a four-volume work that examines God, Jesus, the Spirit and the Church. While some of his beliefs are no longer held by most Presbyterians, wrestling with his writings can help us clarify what we do believe, and in so doing clarify how we are to live as followers of Jesus Christ. All these articles can be found at www.johnCALVINforeveryone.org. I hope these articles prove beneficial to your faith journey. Pastor John

John Calvin for Everyone

The Institutes of the Christian Religion: Book 4 – Chapter 4, Part 1 “THE CONDITION OF THE ANCIENT CHURCH, AND THE KIND OF GOVERNMENT IN USE BEFORE THE PAPACY”

In this chapter, Calvin offers a brief history of church government prior to the rise of the Papacy. The role of the Papacy (the Bishop of Rome) and the organization of the government of the Roman Church as it was in Calvin's age and now in ours, is very different from the organization of church government for the first several hundred years of the early church.

Summary: Calvin's view of the early church was that they tried their best to adhere to the Apostle Paul's teachings about church leadership. The early church did so by having the same three orders of ministers as Paul directed. These were presbyters (pastors and teachers), elders who oversaw the government of the church and deacons who were to care for the poor. Calvin also notes that Jerome (347-420), who was a priest, confessor, theologian and church historian, listed five church orders, “...bishops, presbyters, deacons, believers and catechumens (those preparing for making a profession of faith)” (pg. 1069).

Calvin examines the first three of those categories, bishops, presbyters and deacons. He begins with a lengthy discussion of bishops. Bishops (who were presbyters) were first appointed, Calvin argues, to help settle disputes among the presbyters. They were given the “title...in order that dissensions might not arise (as commonly happens) from equality of rank (all presbyters being equal). Still the bishop was not so much higher in honor and dignity as to have lordship over his colleagues” (pg. 1069). The bishop was in fact not only to “carry out what was decreed by common decision” (pg. 1069) of the presbyters and the people but to “co-operate with them” (pg. 1070). Calvin asserts that while bishops surpassed others in dignity, they were subject to the assembly of their peers. (pg. 1070)

In the early church “...both bishops and presbyters had to devote themselves to the dispensing of Word and sacrament” (pg. 107) and “...it would have been considered a monstrous thing for anyone who claims to be a bishop who had not in fact shown himself not to be a true bishop” (pg. 1071). What this means is that all bishops were to be drawn from the ranks of

presbyters (pastors) who had learned to be good preachers and teachers (which was not the practice in Calvin's time in the Roman Church). Archbishop was a position created, again, for the purpose of helping to settle disputes over larger areas. The position was not created for “...lordship as far as the government of the church was concerned” (pg. 1072).

Deacons were given the power of overseeing the income of the church. They were “...to distribute some to feed the minister, some to feed the poor” and were to “...render an account annually of their distribution” (pg. 1072). While bishops were to oversee the work of the deacons, they were not allowed to direct the use of the funds without agreement from the deacons. Archdeacons were created when the wealth of the church became so great that it needed an additional layer of administration. Later archdeacons were entrusted with reading scripture, exhorting others to pray and assisting in communion. These duties were added to help them focus on the spiritual dimensions of their other work.

Reflection: One of the great secrets of the Roman Church is that the church hierarchy as we see it today, as well as the way Calvin saw it, was not always in place. The church, for its first 500-600 years was one in which pastors, deacons and bishops, even if they were nominated by other pastors and bishops, were elected by the people. There was no sense that those on the top (Pope, Cardinals, etc.) had the right to appoint those below them. In fact, it was considered anathema (out of bounds) for any bishop to do so.

Questions:

1. What has been your experience of a church hierarchy? Was it positive or negative?
2. What was your understanding of “who was in charge” in the church?
3. What do you think of Calvin's view that all ministers/elders/bishops are equal?

Staff

<i>Ministers.....</i>	<i>The Congregation</i>
<i>Senior Pastor.....</i>	<i>Rev. John Judson, D.Min</i>
<i>Associate Pastor/Inclusion & Pastoral Care.....</i>	<i>Rev. Joanne Blair, M.Div</i>
<i>Associate Pastor/Youth & Mission.....</i>	<i>Rev. Bethany Peerbolte, M.Div</i>
<i>Parish Associates**.....</i>	<i>Rev. Julie Madden, M.Div Rev. Ted Thode, M.Div Rev. Kathryn Thoresen, D.Min</i>
<i>Director of Christian Education and All Abilities Inclusion Ministries</i>	<i>Cindy Merten, M.Ed</i>
<i>Educational Administrative Assistant*</i>	<i>Nancy Quigley</i>
<i>Director of Music Ministries</i>	<i>Andrew Herbruck, M.Mus</i>
<i>Director of Children's Choirs*</i>	<i>Margaret Rees-Baker</i>
<i>Trombone Choir Director*</i>	<i>Ben Kohns</i>
<i>Music Makers Choir Director*</i>	<i>Samantha Samuels</i>
<i>Inclusion Assistant*</i>	<i>Craig Myers</i>
<i>Coordinator for Young Adults with Disabilities*</i>	<i>Mara Myers</i>
<i>Director of FP Hand-In-Hand Early Learning Center*</i>	<i>Heidi Wilkinson</i>
<i>Office Administrator</i>	<i>Jan Peters</i>
<i>Director of Communications*</i>	<i>Dawn Swarthout</i>
<i>Membership Director*</i>	<i>Kim McGlynn</i>
<i>Business Managers**</i>	<i>Carl Fischer, Jim Goss</i>
<i>Financial Administrator*</i>	<i>Martha Smith</i>
<i>Building Supervisor</i>	<i>Larry Malover</i>

*Part time Staff **Non Stipend Staff

Need to Contact Us?

First Presbyterian Church
1669 W. Maple Road, Birmingham, MI, 48009
248.644.2040

Email: contact@everybodyschurch.org

Website: www.everybodyschurch.org

Email reservations for church events:
reservations@everybodyschurch.org

Summer Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00am-5:00pm

Use our QR codes to:

To check out
the website:



To sign-up for
church emails contact
Dawn Swarthout

Follow us on Facebook: First Presbyterian
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Everybody's Church Music Ministry
Everybody's Church Youth Groups

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then click on the E-Giving button or
TEXT your contribution to 248.600.4919.

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