



First
Presbyterian
Church of Monroe

1820 to 2020

Celebrating
200 Years
of Faith
&
Service



March 15, 2020

108 Washington St., Monroe, Michigan 48161
734.242.1545; info@monroefirst.org
www.monroefirst.org

The mission of the First Presbyterian Church is to be ambassadors for Jesus Christ and to proclaim his salvation in worship, education, and outreach.

Third Sunday in Lent

**We invite all who are able to stand where there is an asterisk.*

OPENING WORDS

Come, all who are thirsty!

Christ offers living water to all.

Come, all who have doubts.

Christ offers living water to all.

Come, all who are in need of God's love.

Christ offers living water to all.

PRELUDE

“Listen to our Prayer”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, people of God, to know again who you are. Return to the One who gives you life.

We come as children of God, longing for a closer walk with our Creator.

Come, all who are thirsty for living water. Open yourselves to the one who supplies it.

We would drink this day from the spiritual depths, seeking to know and experience life's meaning.

God meets and accepts us as we are, helping us to know ourselves as we are known.

We will worship with enthusiastic expectation.

200th Celebration Historical Hymn

*OPENING HYMN #81

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

AMAZING GRACE is a favorite hymn. Also written by John Newton, in 1779, is another favorite and today's hymn, GLORIOUS THINGS OF THEE ARE SPOKEN. Newton wrote the text after asking help from a Church of England parish priest. The hymn is based on Psalm 77:3 and Isaiah 33:20-21. A favorite of Stonewall Jackson, a Confederate general, he is said to have awakened his soldiers in 1862 by singing this hymn out of tune. The third verse is the National Anthem of present day Germany. Shape note composer Alexander Johnson set the text to his tune “Jefferson” in 1818. (Shape notes are notes within the staff that identify sharps and flats by their unusual shape rather than identifying them in the key signature.) During World War II, the tune “Abbot's Leigh” was written for the hymn in response to complaints received by the BBC. We most often sing to the tune “Austrian Hymn” composed by Franz Joseph Hayden in 1797.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of ages, you know us better than we know ourselves. You already know our history, our shortcomings, and failings. And yet you also know our great need. You alone know the depth of our thirst. Even when we are too ashamed to admit need, you offer the sustenance of your love. We pray to you, God of mercy that you might shower us with living water that refreshes our souls. Quench our thirst. Restore our faith. And let us be washed clean in the river of your forgiveness.

SILENT CONFESSION

HYMN #579

“Lord, Have Mercy”

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus said, “Those who drink of the water I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” Through Jesus Christ, God has showered us with the blessing of living water. Let us rejoice in the cleansing river of God’s forgiving love.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*SONG OF AFFIRMATION #443

“There Is a Redeemer”

vs. 1

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God’s own Son; precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One. Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son, and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

CHILDREN’S TIME

Children 3rd grade and younger are welcome to continue worship in the Wee Believers Room, #159.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING – 2 Timothy 1:1-7

NT pg. 211

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Fear”

Rev. Ellen McGormley

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: Preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick, and binding up the brokenhearted; eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe in the gospel.

HYMN #463

“How Firm a Foundation”

CALL TO OFFERING

Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Registry.

OFFERTORY

“Ring Praises-Meditative Melody”

*DOXOLOGY #606

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We thank you, God of abundance that your gifts gush over us in a stream of love. We, who have drunk deeply of your living water offer our gifts to you. Take our lives, O Lord. Empower us to step into the river and flow through the world, offering the gift of your love to others who thirst still. We pray and serve in the name of Christ. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN #372

“O for a World”

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Chorale”

Important News!!

New Arrival!!

The rose on the pulpit this morning is in honor of Leo Cheng, new born grandson, of Dean and Ellen McGormley who arrived on Friday, March 6, 2020 and weighed 8 lbs. 12 oz. Congratulations to the family!

Worship

This morning we ask that everyone sit apart from one another for precautionary measures from various illnesses going on at this time. (Even Dean agrees with this. 😊)

Custodian out ill

This week our custodian, Sean has been out ill this week. We have encouraged him not to come to work this week. We ask that you if you notice something out of the ordinary to please understand that we focused on disinfecting our high traffic areas in the church this week. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Hymnal and Pew Bible Use

After using a hymnal or a pew Bible this morning please leave it sitting on the pew. We will disinfect them before they are placed back into the pew racks. Thank you.

POSTPONED!!

Potluck & Memories with Lee Markham

Out of concern about the Coronavirus we have postponed our potluck and memories with Lee Markham that was scheduled for today. It will be rescheduled for a later date.

Take Precaution!

As always please take precautionary measures. If you are not feeling well or are worried about becoming ill please stay home at this time. Please follow the instructions that the CDC has given. Please wash your hands with soap and water. If soap and water are not available please use an alcohol based hand sanitizer.

Ongoing Sunday Items

Welcome to FPC of Monroe!

We are glad you are here today! We hope you find this a community of faith where you experience God in Jesus Christ. Childcare is always provided on Sunday mornings in the nursery and Wee Believers rooms located near the parking lot entrance of the church. Hearing assistance, wheel chairs, and walkers are also available.

Weekly Trivia

There is a trivia question based on our church's history in today's bulletin. Trivia must be answered and placed into the box on the Narthex table that same Sunday. See insert.

Friendship Registry

This morning we ask that you sign and pass down the Friendship Registry located in each pew nearest the center aisle. If you are a first time visitor we request that you legibly provide us with your contact information so that we can tell you more about our church.

Wee Believers

After the Children's Time the children will be released to go to the Wee Believers Room with Amy Morgan and Sue Bondie leading the class. Infant Care is available before and during the Worship Service. During Wee Believers the children will hear a bible story with a time of play and interaction with other children.

Fish Boxes for One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Please pick up a "fish" offering box (Narthex table, C.E. Lobby) to place your coins in during the Lent season and on Easter Sunday, **April 12** we will take up the "One Great Hour of Sharing" Offering during Worship. Your gifts support God's people experiencing need in supporting ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance, resettlement, food for the hungry, community development that helps people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen families and communities.



Upcoming Events

Newsletter Deadline

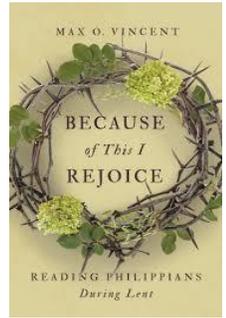
Please remember to submit items for the April newsletter to the Church Office by this Friday, **March 20**.

New Member Class

Are you interested in learning more about what it means to be Presbyterian and the work and mission of this congregation? There will be two short informal gatherings after worship on **March 22 and March 29** in the Cairl Room. All who want to explore membership in this congregation are invited. Lunch and childcare will be offered.

Lenten Study Series

We have begun our Lenten Study, "Because of This I Rejoice!" by Max O. Vincent. This study explores what Paul teaches in Philippians about joyfully practicing spiritual discipline. The intent of these disciplines is to focus less on ourselves and more on God. The seven lessons will be led by Rev. Ellen McGormley on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Cairl Room. If you want your own copy of the book please let the Church Office know. The cost is \$14.



Easter Flower Orders

It's time to order flowers for the season!!! We are taking orders for lilies, tulips, and hyacinths. Please place your Easter Flower Orders with the Church Office by Wednesday, **March 25**. Order forms are available in the Midweekly Bulletin, the Sunday Bulletin, and the March Newsletter.

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)

Please keep the members of our PNC in your prayers. The PNC will be meeting on Friday, **March 27** at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. The members of the Pastor Nominating Committee are: Isaac Fankhauser, Dana Young, Chris Todd, Kim Hooper, Dale DeSloover, Diane Adams, and Helyn Schroeder.

Young Couples

There is a sheet in the C.E. Lobby to sign up if you would like to help with the Community of Need Meal on Thursday, **April 2**.

Kitchen Help Needed

There is a sign-up sheet in the C.E. Lobby for any women who would like to help serve the meal on Thursday, **April 30th**. Thank you.

2 Cents a Meal

During Lent we will be collecting for the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. Please pick up a fish box in the Narthex or C.E. Lobby. Our 2 Cents a Meal Offering will continue after Lent.

Weekly Programs

Bell Choir and Choir Rehearsals

Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. for the Bell Choir and 7:30 p.m. for the Choir. If anyone is interested in joining these choirs please join us as we lift up a new song to our Lord, Jesus!

Greeters for Community of Need Meal

For the month of March, the Finance Committee are the greeters on Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m. for our Community of Need Meal.

Pastoral Care Needs

Please direct any Pastoral Care needs to the Church Office. Information shared is confidential!

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Welcome everyone!

The group will meet at 10:00 am each in their own home to share the study "Because of This I Rejoice-Reading Philippians during Lent". Or study this at a time convenient to you.

March 19 is Week #3 titled Joyful Humility!

Begin with prayer for family, church and country.

Read Scriptures: Philippians 1:27-2:18 and John 13:1-20

Review Questions: Who do you know that suffers pain for a group? Does this service seem like an obligation or an expression of joyful humility?

What did the Bible verses say to you?

Closing Prayer: LORD, BE WITH ME, AMEN.

**We are not meeting at church due to health concerns. Please join our online group by contacting Alice Kostoff at alicekostoff@sbcglobal.net You may add your comments and then just return it to sender clicking the double arrows going back (or to the left). The group will then be able to read each other's comments.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are from the Lectionary. We invite you to take time each day to read the Bible passages in preparation for Sunday morning.

Sunday	John 4:5-42	Jesus and the woman at the well
Monday	Exodus 17:1-7	The Lord gives water from a rock
Tuesday	Romans 5:1-11	Right with God
Wednesday	John 1:35-42	Come and see Jesus
Thursday	1 Thessalonians 2:5-12	Paul's relational ministry
Friday	Romans 12:9-21	Caring relationships
Saturday	Psalm 95	Call to worship
Sunday	John 9:1-41	The man born blind

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	9:30	Sunday School (Cairl Room)
	11:00	Worship
MONDAY	6:00	Chair Yoga
	6:30	200 th Anniversary Celebration Committee
	7:00	AA (Fellowship Hall)
TUESDAY	10:00	Chair Yoga
	11:00	Staff Meeting
WEDNESDAY	5:30	Worship Committee
	6:30	Bell Choir
	7:30	Choir
	7:30	S-Anon
THURSDAY	10:00	Bible Study
	6:00	Community of Need Meal
	6:00	TOPS
FRIDAY		Newsletter Deadline
	9:00	TOPS
	7:00	S-Anon
SATURDAY	5:30	Socialites
SUNDAY	9:30	Sunday School (Cairl Room)
	11:00	Worship
	12:15	Fellowship (Boyd Chapel)
	12:15	New Members Class (Cairl Room)

Easter Flower Order Form



**Easter is just around the corner!
It's time to order flowers for the season!**

The following flower varieties will be available:

Easter Lily
\$8.50 _____

Tulips
\$8.50 _____

Hyacinths
\$8.50 _____

Orders must be received by **Wednesday, March 25**, and will be ordered on **Thursday, March 26**. Please fill out the order form below or call Sara in the office at 734-242-1545 to order. Please feel free to take your plant home after the 11:00 a.m. Easter Service on Sunday, April 12.

In honor of: _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

In memory of: _____

Donated by: _____

Community

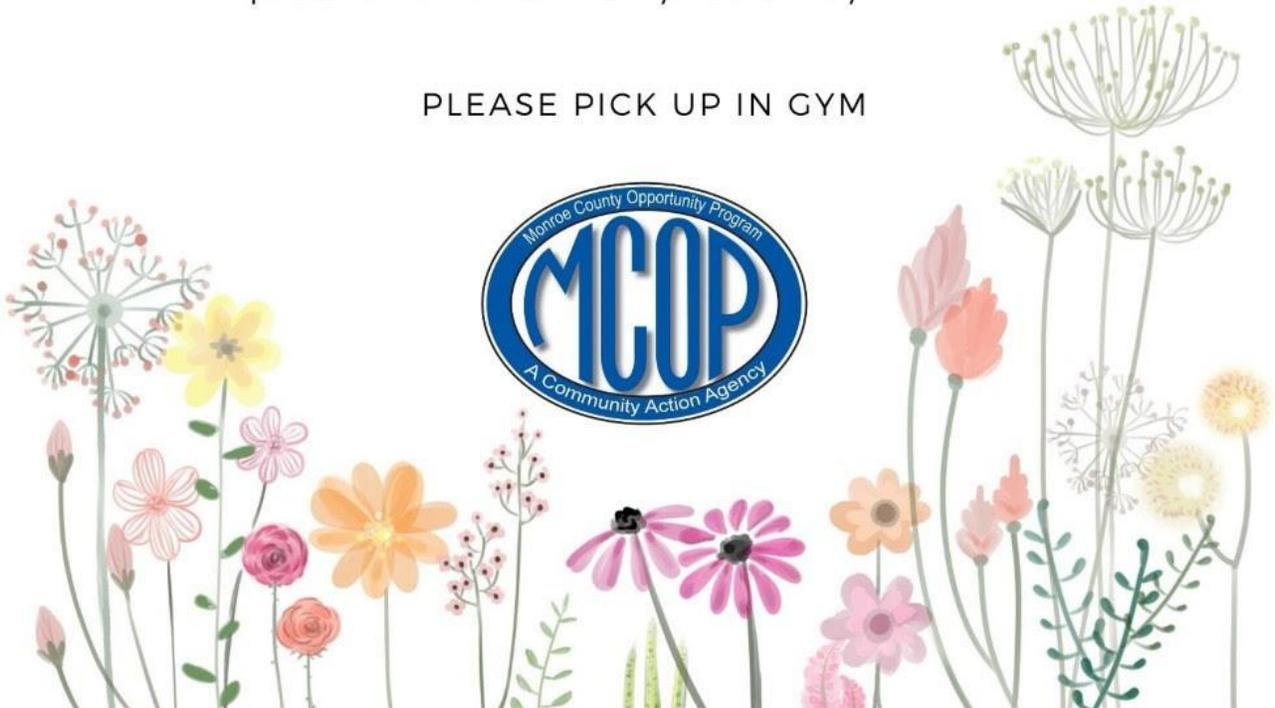
Spring Food Basket Giveaway

Thursday, March 19, 2020 @ 11am

OPPORTUNITY CENTER AT ALCC
120 EASTCHESTER STREET
MONROE, MI 48161

- One food package to the first 200 families
- Households receiving food packages require proof of Monroe County residency

PLEASE PICK UP IN GYM



Church Leadership

Elders

Class of 2020

Cheryl Eder
Jennifer Hueston
Alan Schroeder

Class of 2021

Diane Adams
Jim Crammond
Dale DeSloover

Class of 2022

Mark Baker
Elizabeth Cunningham
Ann Lux

Committee Chairperson(s)

Building and Property: Dale DeSloover

Congregational Life: Cheryl Eder; Ann Lux

Finance: Alan Schroeder; Liz Cunningham

Mission and Outreach: Jim Crammond

Personnel and Policy: Jennifer Hueston; Cheryl Eder

Worship: Diane Adams; Mark Baker

Deacons

Class of 2020

Ann Orwin
David Nielsen

Class of 2021

Isabel Benedicto
Mary DeSloover
Jeffrey Haman
Marilyn Marshall
George Pomerville
Yoshie Pomerville
Karen Sobieralski

Moderator of Deacons: Karen Sobieralski

Vice Moderators of Deacons: Mary DeSloover

Church Staff:

Co-Interim Pastors: Rev. Dr. Ellen McGormley and Rev. Dean McGormley;
Ellen: (734) 652-7147 (cell) and Dean: (734) 497-8069 (cell)

Director of Music Ministries: Robert Edwards;

Administrative Assistant: Sara Jones; **Financial Secretary:** Suzanne Bondie;

Sexton: Gary Bogedain; **Childcare:** Suzanne Bondie, Amy Morgan;

Custodian: Sean Farris

Liturgist: Kim Hooper

Ushers: Jim Crammond, Helyn Schroeder, David Nielsen