



First
Presbyterian
Church of Monroe

1820 to 2020

Celebrating
200 Years
of Faith
&
Service



March 8, 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.

Second Sunday in Lent

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

OPENING WORDS

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....**

Let us venture together,
daring to feel the wounds of God's Spirit.

**We will join in exploring God's purposes
and open ourselves to God's leading.**

PRELUDE

“Meditation”

*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.**

The God who have given us life offers us a new birth-in a new way.

**We are both attracted and repelled by newness,
by the promises and challenges of a life of faith.**

Let us venture together,
daring to feel the winds of God's Spirit.

**We will join in exploring God's purposes
and open ourselves to God's leading.**

*OPENING HYMN #634

“To God Be the Glory”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Maker of heaven and earth, lift our eyes to the hills,
that we might find our help in times of trial.**

**Forgive us when, like Nicodemus,
our vision is focused on the ground;**

**ignoring Your call to follow You; refusing Your blessings
for fear of the obligations to bless others whom we do not want to meet.**

Even when we follow, we often do so out of fear:

fear of disappointment,

fear of your awesome power,

fear of your wrath.

Teach our hearts anew to trust Your Spirit and the promise of Your blessings.

SILENT CONFESSION

HYMN #579 “Lord, Have Mercy”

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*SONG OF AFFIRMATION #581 “Glory Be to the Father”

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the
beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING – Psalm 121

OT pg. 571

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S TIME

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

*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 #188

“Jesus Loves Me!”

CALL TO OFFERING

Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Registry.

OFFERTORY

“Hands of Christ”

*DOXOLOGY #606

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating His sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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.

SECOND READING — John 3:1-17

NT pgs. 93-94

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Born from Above”

Diane Adams

200th Celebration Historical Hymn

*HYMN #215

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

This hymn was first published in 1811 in both Baptist and Methodist hymnals. The text used first appeared with the tune in 1840. The author of the text is unknown as is the time of writing. The melody used for WONDROUS LOVE is based on an American folk tune. The folk tune may be related to the 1701 English song THE BALLAD OF CAPTAIN KIDD. What we sing today is essentially the same hymn as found in 1844. The lyrics express awe in the love of God and are reminiscent of John 3:16.

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Improvisation on Wondrous Love”

Today

About our Guest Speaker

Diane Adams is a graduate of Adrian College, Eastern Michigan University, and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She is a retired educator, a former hospital chaplain, and one who has served as an interim associate in York, PA, and as a Christian education director in Monroe, MI. Diane was confirmed and married at First Presbyterian Church, Monroe, MI.

Daylight Saving Time Begins Today



Time to Spring ahead!! This Sunday, **March 8** Daylight Saving Time begins!!! We hope you have set your clocks one hour ahead so you have the correct time.

Deacons Meeting

There will be a Deacons Meeting after Worship this morning in the Cairl Room.

Picture Directory

Our new Picture Directory has finally arrived!! These beautiful directories will continue to be passed out by Alice K. this morning in the Hall of Memories.

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.



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.

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.

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.

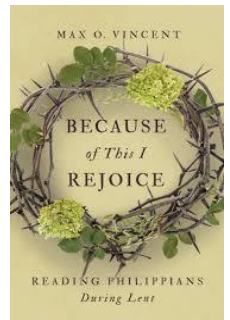
Wee Believers

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.

Upcoming Events

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. and with Cindy Morgan leading on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Both classes will be held in the Cairl Room. If you want your own copy of the book it is available for \$14.00 in the Church Office.



Martha Mary Circle

Please remember all women of the church are welcome to participate in the Martha Mary Circle. We will meet tomorrow (**March 9**) at 1:00 p.m. in the Cairl Room. Please join us!

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Our next Men's Prayer Breakfast will be this Saturday, **March 14** at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up on the sheet in the C.E. Lobby.

Potluck & Memories with Lee Markham

SUNDAY POTLUCK 12:00 Noon on MARCH 15, 2020 in FELLOWSHIP HALL

GUEST SPEAKER: LEE MARKHAM

He will share stories as the son of Pastor Paul Markham and life on Washington Street. Please bring a generous dish to pass. Meat will be provided. Everyone is welcome to come for good 'ol Presbyterian food and another chance to celebrate our 200th Birthday.
~Your 200th Celebration Committee

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**. All who want to explore membership in this congregation are invited. Lunch and childcare will be offered.

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)

Please keep the members of our PNC in your prayers. The PNC will be meeting on Tuesday, **March 10** at 7:00 p.m. and Friday, **March 27** at 7:00 p.m. Both meetings will be 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.

Newsletter Deadline

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

Socialites

The next meeting of the Socialites will be Saturday, **March 21** at 5:30 p.m. at the Schroeder residence.

Young Couples

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

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!

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Our Bible Study group meets every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in the Cairl Room. Please join us as we pour over the scriptures and pray with one another.

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!

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 3:1-17	For God so loved the world
Monday	Genesis 12:1-4a	The call of Abram
Tuesday	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	God keeps his promise
Wednesday	Jeremiah 17:7-8	Trust the Lord
Thursday	2 Corinthians 9:6-15	Generous giving
Friday	Numbers 6:22-27	Blessing for the people
Saturday	Psalm 121	Assurance of God's protection
Sunday	John 4:5-42	Jesus and the woman at the well

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	9:30	Sunday School (Cairl Room)
	11:00	Worship
	12:15	Fellowship (Boyd Chapel)
MONDAY	12:15	Deacons Meeting
	1:00	Martha Mary Circle (Cairl Room)
	6:00	Chair Yoga
	7:00	Property Committee
TUESDAY	7:00	AA (Fellowship Hall)
	10:00	Chair Yoga
	11:00	No Staff Meeting
	5:30	Congregational Life Committee
	6:00	Finance Committee
WEDNESDAY	7:00	Mission and Outreach Committee
	7:00	Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)
	6:30	Bell Choir
	7:30	Choir
	7:30	S-Anon
THURSDAY	10:00	Bible Study
	5:30	Personnel Committee
	6:00	Community of Need Meal
FRIDAY	6:00	TOPS
	9:00	TOPS
SATURDAY	7:00	S-Anon
	8:30	Men's Prayer Breakfast
SUNDAY	9:30	Sunday School (Cairl Room)
	11:00	Worship
	12:15	Potluck and Memories with Lee Markham (Fellowship Hall)

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

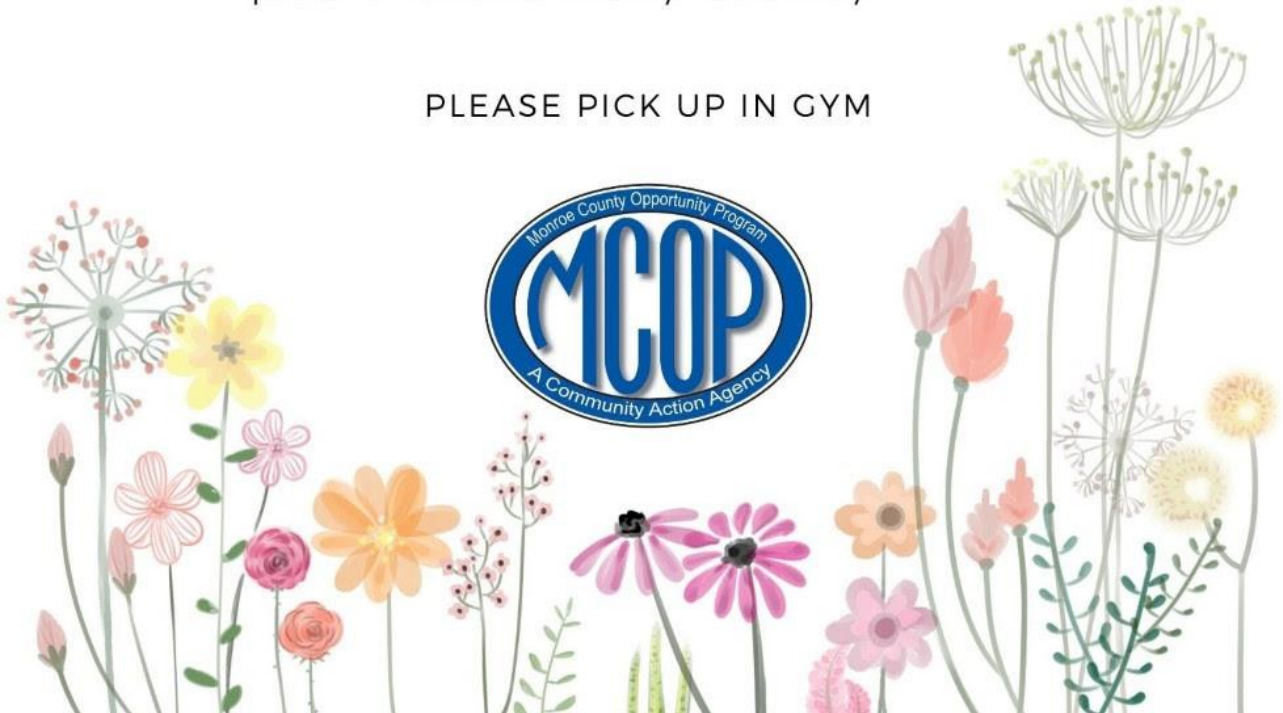
Spring Food Basket Giveaway

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: Maryanne Hooper

Ushers: Kim Hooper, Marilyn Marshall, George Kostoff