I want to thank all those who were able to attend the CAT (Congregational Assessment Tool) Debrief on October 13 with our consultant, Michelle Snyder. We heard a lot, discussed a lot, dreamed a lot, and planned a lot! One of the key things we learned is that we are a “Transformational Church”! This means that we have relatively high satisfaction and energy compared to other churches with whom they have worked. It doesn’t mean that we have “arrived” (we learned more about our growing edges!!), but it does mean that we are in an excellent position to do the work in order to grow deeper and broader. It also means that we have the potential to live into a shared vision for our church and community.

The working vision statement that we developed is: “To become a hub to care for the community better together than any of us could do alone.”

We are already doing this in many ways! The vision involves doing this better and growing into deeper connections in order to care, love, and serve our community. The Session had a discussion particularly about the word “hub.” We liked this concept as it compared to a transit station with people moving both in and out. The hope is that our church both becomes a place of ministry and a place where people are sent out in mission and service.

In order to live into this vision, we looked at what the rest of the CAT told us about ourselves. We realized that we have some internal work to do, living more deeply in to the church God is calling us to be. The group who attended on October 13, developed 4 strategic initiatives. The next steps involve putting together a strategic planning committee who will help develop and fill in a fuller plan. My hope is that we can present this to the congregation at our annual meeting in February. Keep looking for news on this and for all the ways God is at work through First Church!

Lynn Meuchel, Mission Elder

Pastor Julie

November 2018
VOL 21 #09
Yoshi, Carol and Judy delivered the gifts from the Ingathering Shower to Westminster Church on October 15th. Thank You, Yoshi! The monetary value of the items donated came to $1,545.55. These items will be distributed to 32 agencies throughout the Metropolitan area that help those in need. Thank you to all who helped make this mission project a success.

Our Bible Study led by Pastor Nancy will continue on Thursday, November 8th. Please read Chapter 2 of “If You Want To Walk On Water, You Have to Get Out Of The Boat” and Matthew 25:14-30. Refreshments at 9:45 am, Bible Study at 10:00 am followed by a short business meeting at 11:00 am.

We will be preparing Christmas gifts for 20 children at the Second Mile Center again this year, More information will follow.

SAVE THE DATE All women of the church are invited to our Christmas Potluck Dinner on Thursday, December 13th at 6:00 pm. We will also enjoy a “White Elephant” gift exchange. A white elephant is something you have and no longer want and might be fun to share. Our mission project will be to help supply the food pantry at St. Paul’s Church on Mound. Please bring a can or box of non-perishable food for the collection. It will be an evening of fun, food and fellowship!! Please join us.

Happy Thanksgiving
Peace, Judy Webb

We asked our new members
1) Why First Church?
2) What would you like us to know about you?
3) What is your favorite thing to eat?

**KAREN**: 1) It feels like home with a functional family and MOST IMPORTANTLY: Davey Wavey and Marci too, are so LOVED AND WELCOMED 2) As the caption in a picture with one of my law school classmates stated, "CAN'T STOP, WON'T STOP! That is my lifelong mission in fighting on behalf of the animals in changing the law to protect ALL of them, and not just some/pets, oh and you won't find me in "human" heaven, you'll have to come visit me in bunny heaven instead if you're looking for me. 3) ANYTHING VEGAN; chocolate, middle eastern, chana masala/south Indian food, the list goes on forever; so much incredible food.

**JASON**: 1) First Church has a great and welcoming feeling and community that kind of just tries to pulls you in. 2) I am interested and quite versed in computers and electrical. I work at Tony’s Ace Hardware in Hazel Park. I am engaged to the wonderful Rebecca Kudla. 3) My favorite thing to eat is probably Sushi.

**REBECCA**: 1) I first chose First Church because I was familiar with it, having been part of quite a few events there (thanks to Nina). I decided to officially become a member there because I felt welcomed and accepted by the entire congregation. 2) I love children, animals, and music. I am currently engaged to Jason and we are getting married in August 2019. 3) My favorite food is seafood, especially scallops.

**BLAKE**: 1) I’ve been looking for a place to worship that feels like home, and this is it. 2) Family and films are my biggest passions. 3) Sushi!!!!!

**KYNNA**: 1) First Church is a great church with a great environment for us and our son, Clark to grow in our faith. 2) I am a mom and photographer. 3) Cabbage Soup.

**WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS** (from left to right) Jason Wightman, Rebecca Kudla, Karen Mourajdian, Kynna and Blake Kleiner with their son Clark.
Looking Ahead with The Inclusion Ministry

Come share your talents with our brothers and sisters from Warren Consolidated Schools and the Village of Warren Glenn. There’s something for everyone and every talent. The most important gift you can share is YOU!!! Everyone is welcome to attend Inclusion Ministry Events!!!

Every week:


♦ Advent Bible Study to begin on November 29 through December 20. “Why we sing the Christmas Songs We Sing.” We will study the origins of our traditional Christmas hymns and sing a few too!

♦ Cousino H.S. Special Needs Students at First Church - Tuesdays, 12 pm to 1:15 pm. Help with their jobs and learn about their stories.

♦ November 6th - Scrapbooking with Kay, resident from the Village of Warren Glenn. Kay will be teaching the students how to scrapbook, come and learn too.

♦ Sterling H.S. Needs Students at First Church - Thursdays, 8:00 am to 9:45 am.

November:

♦ November 3rd - Movie Night and Dinner at the Village of Warren Glenn Communion at 4:30 pm - Warren Glenn Wellness Room. (Please note, this is on Saturday in November due to a scheduling issue.) “Planes, Trains, and Automobiles!”

♦ November 4th - Village of Warren Glenn Communion at 1:00pm - Warren Glenn Community Room.

♦ November 16th - 10:30 am Cousino High School Students trip with Village of Warren Glenn Residents. Great Lakes Crossing for lunch and shopping

♦ November 18th - Village of Warren Glenn Worship and Potluck at 1:30pm - Warren Glenn Community Room.

♦ November 22nd - Village of Warren Glenn Thanksgiving Worship at 10:00 am - Warren Glenn Community Room.

Marijo Hockley, Inclusion Ministry Co-Coordinator

Soul Food…….. The Practice of Home Communion

Worship fuels our passion for Christ. In all that we do, we are called to live out the glory of God. We worship God by preaching, teaching, singing, praying and celebrating baptism and communion. Community is the context for how we come to know and experience God. Our faith is not intended to be lived in isolation; we were made for relationship with God and for relationship with each other.

At First Church, we believe it’s important to keep our church family connected through the sacrament of Communion, recognizing Jesus’ gift of salvation. Home Communion allows us to share in this celebration of thanksgiving, grace and salvation celebration with those who are unable to gather with us on a regular basis.

If you (or someone you know), would like a Home Communion visit (or if you are interested in helping this ministry); please contact Pastors’ Julie or Nancy . Grace and gratitude, Pastor Nancy
From the Director of Music

There are three presentations/performances I would like you to be aware of. The first is Saturday, November 10, 2018 at 7:30. There will be 7 of us from our choir going to First Methodist of Birmingham for a day-long choral festival, and then in the evening at 7:30, you will hear a concert of several beautiful pieces sung by about 150 people combined from various churches in the area. There is no admission fee, and there is a reception afterwards. First Methodist of Birmingham is located at 1589 Maple Road, Birmingham, MI 48009.

If you have questions about this, there is a flyer on the Music Department bulletin board in the hallway, or you can ask Music Director, June Zydek.

On Monday evening, December 3 at 7:30, the Motor City Chorale will be presenting their holiday concert here at First Church. They were here last year, and they are always a welcome way to begin the holiday season with beautiful music. Two singers are well-known, and well-loved members of our church, Dave Jaworski and Nancy Bass. They have been all working hard, and this promises to be a beautiful concert. Hope you will be here to support music at First Church. There will be a free-will offering at this concert.

And last, but not least, we are so pleased to announce that on Sunday, December 16 when you come to church for worship, the Chancel Choir will be singing our Cantata service. We will be combining with the Chancel Choir of Celtic Cross to present a Cantata entitled “Tapestry of Light” with familiar Christmas music you will probably love. There will be readings, choral pieces and choral pieces with solos. This cantata will then be presented at Celtic Cross’ worship service on December 23 during their regular worship time.

Please come out and support music at First Church!

June Zydek.

Puzzle Night! November 16th

Our first Anything Fun Night is Friday, November 16 from 5:30-8:30. We will be having a puzzle night! Puzzles provided (or bring your own)! All ages welcome. Bring a snack to share and/or a few dollars so we can order pizza. Hosted by Cozette and Mike Slupinski.

It is our hope that through our Anything Fun Nights, we can nurture relationships in our congregation and with newcomers. If you would like to host an event for December or beyond, please see the sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex!
Celebrating

November Birthdays

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<td>Lovelace, Kathryn</td>
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<td>Zydek, June</td>
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<td>Carlson, Keith</td>
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November Anniversaries

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<tr>
<td>Bill &amp; Jan Halstead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ben &amp; Yvonne McKerricher</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stan &amp; June Zydek</td>
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Mission Statement

First Presbyterian Church of Warren is a welcoming family of God following Christ’s teaching and putting faith into action.

Save the Date

Saturday
November 17, 2018
9:00 am to 12:00 pm
First Church will be hosting the Presbytery Meeting. We will be needing volunteers that morning, please sign-up on the bulletin board.

Don’t forget to set your clocks back one hour, Saturday, November 3rd!

Holiday

SAVE THE DATES

Hanging of the Greens Set-Up
November 24, 9am-12pm

Hanging of the Greens Service
November 25, 10am

Motor City Chorale
December 3, 7pm

Crafts, Cookies, and Caroling @ The Village of Warren Glenn
December 8, 6-8pm