

## Lectionary for September

**September 6:** Exodus 12:1-14, Psalm 149,  
Romans 13:8-14, Matthew 18:15-20

**September 13:** Exodus 14:19-31, Psalm 114,  
Romans 14:1-12, Matthew 18:21-35

**September 20:** Exodus 16:2-15, Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45,  
Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16

**September 27:** Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16,  
Philippians 2:1-13, Matthew 21:23-32

### Please keep these people in your prayers:

Stephanie Bennett  
Don and Sally Day  
Harry Doutre  
Tim Robertson

Arlene Besner  
Vera Dice  
Esther Egbert

## Second Presbyterian Church Newsletter September 2020



Seeking and Serving Christ. We are a Place for Growing  
Christians.

### Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> is Kick Off Sunday

Please bring your chair, mask and a beverage and join us at 9:30 a.m. at the Outdoor Worship Service or on youtube.com then search for *Second Presbyterian church spcsaginaw* to watch us live from the comfort of your home.

### Outdoor Sunday Worship Service Options

Currently there are three options to experience our Outdoor Worship Service

- **Gather on the lawn.** Outdoor Worship will take place in the area above, please bring your own chair, mask, and water.
- **FM radio** for those who wish to remain in their vehicle, the service can be heard through an FM radio. Each week, at the service, you will be notified of the station to tune your radio.
- **Live-stream.** If you wish to watch our Sunday worship services via live-stream, you may do so on our YouTube page.

### Midweek Devotion

Each Wednesday morning @ 8:00 a.m., there will be a Midweek Devotional with Pastor Philomena on our YouTube and Facebook page. We hope you will take a moment to join us!

### Conversations About Our Church

Every Friday morning at 8:00 a.m., please join us as we discuss a variety of topics including, the history of the church, our church family, updates and more on our YouTube and Facebook pages.

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## Join Us on Kick-Off Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>

Immediately following the Children's Sermon, children will be dismissed to attend a fun Sunday School activity, while maintaining acceptable social distancing. Please RSVP to [secondpres.peggy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:secondpres.peggy@sbcglobal.net) by 2:00 p.m. on 9/10/2020 to reserve your child's spot.



## Sunday School

Beginning Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Sunday School live-stream on our YouTube page. We will begin in the Garden of Eden as we explore this year's theme "Test of Faith". From Adam and Eve to you and me, there are times when we do well in pleasing God, and other times where we miss the mark.

Through the stories of faith, we learn that God's grace is always extended to us!



## Youth Events

\*\*Youth Group is for any youth currently in 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades – we look forward to seeing everyone soon! (from about 6ft away of course☺)



**Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**- Kick off Sunday!!! Although there will be no pancakes served this year.... we are going to have a kick-off event that we need your help with! Please plan on joining us for worship this day! Don't forget your mask!

**Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>** – PYG (COVID style 😊).  
10:30 a.m. (ish) – 11:30 a.m. (ish). We really just want to see all your faces..... we will meet outside after worship for about an hour. Please bring a lawn chair and a mask

**Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>** – PYG meeting during Sunday School time (see details in Newsletter and Bulletins)

## MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

### "Go also the second mile" Matthew 5:41

The CoVid-19 pandemic has forced us to make some adjustments to our Mission plans this year. We will continue our "Back-to-School" collection of school supplies that will benefit the Brethren School district up north as well as the Arthur Eddy Elementary school here in Saginaw. The school supplies that were donated have been delivered to Arthur Eddy Elementary, however, Brethren School District is only able to accept gift cards to Amazon and Meijer at this time. If you wish to make a monetary donation or gift cards, please mark your envelope "School Supplies". Thank You.

\*\*\* 3<sup>RD</sup> Grade teacher, Alan Vance of Arthur Eddy Academy in Saginaw, wants to thank our congregation for the donation of school supplies. He is incredibly grateful and uses the supplies either in his classroom, or the children take some of the items home to use for homework.



Join us on Sunday, October 11 in raising funds to help neighbors near and far get the meals they need this year. As the walker's safety is always of paramount concern, this year the 2020 Saginaw County CROP Walk will be VIRTUAL only. We hope that you will walk in family groups, or on your own, and send pictures or video of your walk to the church email [secondpres@sbcglobal.net](mailto:secondpres@sbcglobal.net) so that we may share them on our website or Facebook page. Please contact Doug Byron @ 989-798-3305 for more information or to receive a donation envelope. Please join us in bringing much needed relief to those in need.



## Music Notes

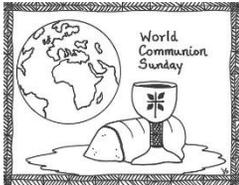
Come and share the joy of music! Rehearsals on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m., outside on the lawn. All ages and skill levels are welcome!



## Wellness Check In

Anyone interested in being part of a phone chain to keep in touch with fellow congregates, please call the church office 989-792-1023.

## World Communion Sunday



Please join us Sunday, October 4th for World Communion Sunday. To partake in Communion safely, we are asking that you bring your own elements, bread and grape juice, symbolizing the Lord's Supper. If you are participating at home through the

Livestream, we encourage you to share in Communion with us from home using your own elements. We are thankful to be able to share in Communion together as a congregation, whether in person or from home.

On World Communion Sunday, we will also collect the **Peace and Global Witness** offering. If you do not have a special envelope for your offering, please specify your donation.

## Gifts Given to the Church



Second Presbyterian Church has been the fortunate beneficiary of a generous gift. We have been given two spaces/crypts at Oakwood Mausoleum in a highly desirable area of the mausoleum. These

include the opening and closing costs and lettering of the crypts. If you are interested, please call the church office for more details.

## White Elephant Sale Update

The annual White Elephant sale, that is usually in September, has been postponed to a later date. We will update you as soon as a date is determined.

## Our Condolences

- Our church mourns the death of Wally Geiersbach on August 11, 2020. Our prayers are with Susan Geiersbach and the Geiersbach family.
- Our church mourns the death of Winnie Bingham on August 24, 2020. Our prayers are with her daughter Carol Smith and family.

## Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers for the for the following:

- Mission Study - The purpose of the mission study is to identify the direction the congregation wishes to go, the leadership model appropriate to the church, and the gifts necessary to lead them.
- Sunday morning outdoor worship set up.
- Liturgists on Sunday mornings.

Please call the church office 989-792-1023 if you can help.



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## From the Pastor's Desk

Peace and Grace!

In the past few months, our worship in the sanctuary came to a complete stop. We turned to other means of worship and that was virtual (Live stream or Facebook), and now outdoor worship. Throughout this, we have remained faithful in the Lord and finding new ways to feed our souls. Perhaps you have been wondering what is next and when will we go back to normal? This is a big question everyone may be trying to find answers to. Yet we must continue to keep our eyes on God who saw the people of God through the wilderness for 40 years. Therefore, in the waiting let us look at a passage from 1 Timothy 2:1-2,

**“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—<sup>2</sup>for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.” (1 Timothy 2:1-2 NIV)**

In the passage from First Timothy, the author called his readers to do something that was absolute strange: they should be praying for their kings and leaders. During this time, most Christians were still living in places that were under Roman rule. The Roman emperors were divine. Many thought of them as gods, who should be adored and worshiped. This was a huge problem for a faith, like the newly developing Christianity, which believes in only one god.

You can imagine why this passage from 1 Timothy might have seemed offensive. The Roman emperor was the enemy! He was a false idol! Why should we pray for someone like him? But this passage teaches its readers that they have to pray for everyone. This includes the people in power and the leaders whom they might despise. Why? Because even the emperor was a person made and loved by God.

We might not be ruled by a king, but this passage still rings true for us today. We are during unsettling issues in our nations and it feels like the air is heavy with tension. It can be easy to get caught up in the growing fervor, until we end up shouting curses instead of saying prayers.

But remember who the scriptures teach us to be. We should pray for our each other and leaders as fellow members of the family of God.

This does not mean we must approve of everything that everyone does. But we are called to see the world through the eyes of God's compassion. Our first instinct should be to turn to God in prayer rather than to hatred and anger. First Timothy says, when we pray for our leaders, it can lead to a newfound peace and dignity. As the world swirls with conflict, we should ground ourselves firmly in love. We are called to be examples of how to handle disagreements with compassion. We are called to see through the lens of grace. We are called to pray.



Peace and Blessings!!! Have a safe and Blessed Labor Day!!!

Pastor Philomena



# Second Presbyterian Church

## September 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Prayer Group 8:30 a.m.	4	5
6 9:30 Outdoor Worship & Livestream	7 <b>LABOR DAY</b>	8 Committees 7:00 p.m.	9 Outdoor Music Rehearsal 6:00 p.m.	10 Prayer Group 8:30 a.m.	11	12
13 <b>Kickoff Sunday</b> 9:30 Outdoor Worship & Live Stream	14	15	16 Outdoor Music Rehearsal 6:00 p.m.	17 Prayer Group 8:30 a.m.	18	19 
20 9:30 Outdoor Worship & Livestream	21	22 Session 7:00 p.m.	23 Outdoor Music Rehearsal 6:00 p.m.	24 Prayer Group 8:30 a.m.	25	26
27 9:30 Outdoor Worship & Livestream	28	29	30 Outdoor Music Rehearsal 6:00 p.m.			

Our Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and across the world.

Thank you for your participation  
in the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!



### WAYS TO GIVE



Through your congregation



Donate by credit card online at <http://pcusa.org/peace-global>



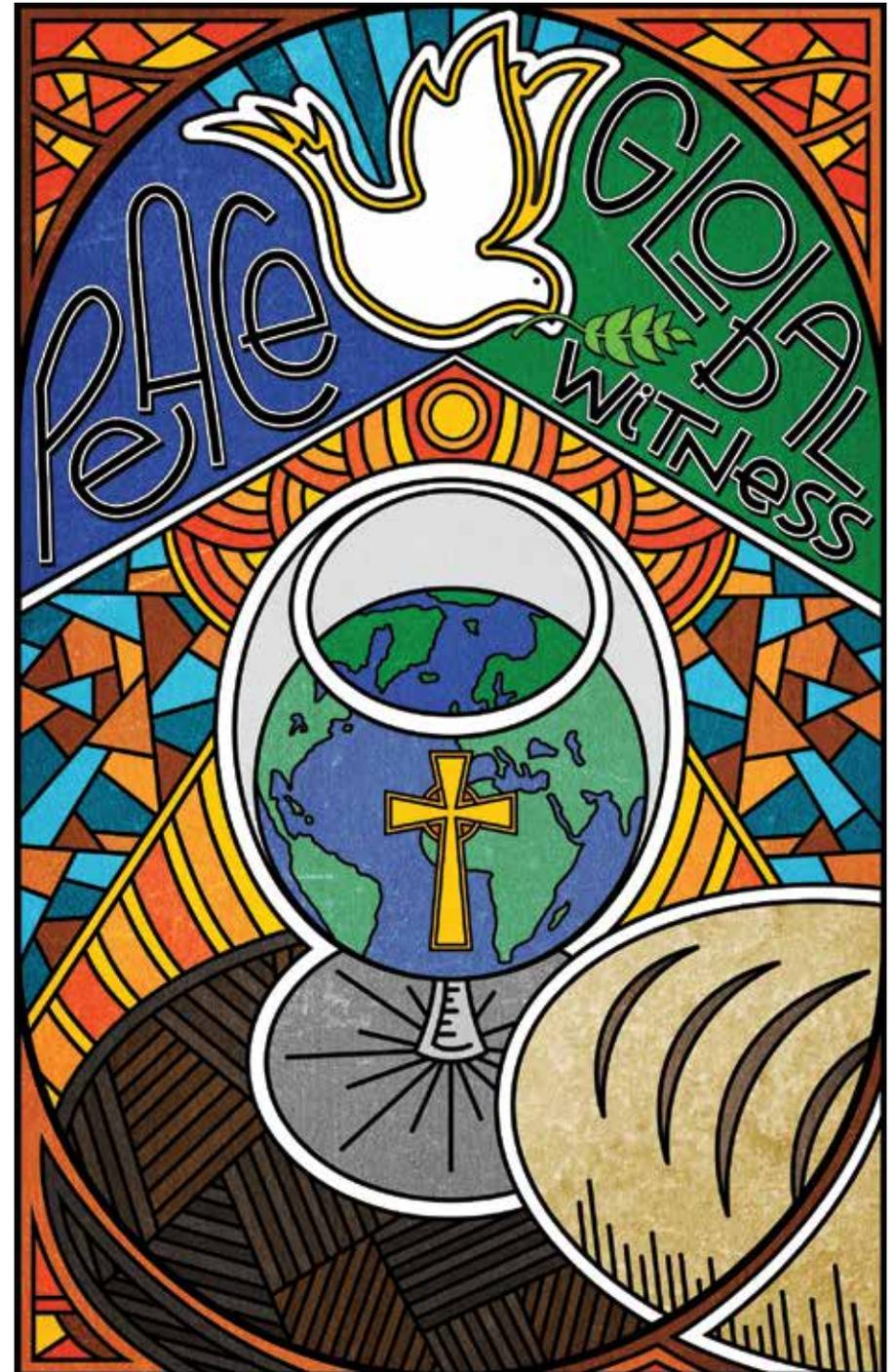
Text PEACE to 56512 to learn more about  
and give to peacemaking efforts around the globe.



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
**Presbyterian Mission**

The Peace & Global Witness Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the twenty-first century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

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**PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS**  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

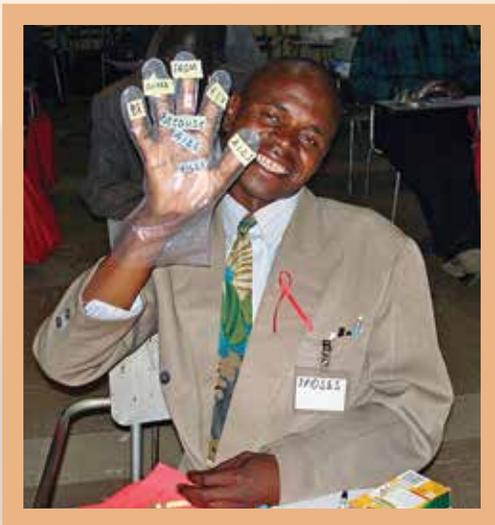


## “HIV & AIDS IS STILL A WORLDWIDE ISSUE,”

says Phyllis Wezeman who is a member First Presbyterian Church of South Bend, Indiana. She leads Malawi Matters—a nonprofit that develops and facilitates HIV and AIDS education with the people of Malawi, Africa. Nearly 40 million people are living with HIV/AIDS around the globe; with 26 million of those cases in the sub-Saharan countries of Africa.

“It’s a mission lived in harmony with Malawians,” Wezeman explained. “Our program brings meaningful training at a grassroots level in multiple ways from designing lessons based on storytelling, music, and art to equipping leaders with the information and supplies they need to help their residents understand this disease. We do all of this and more while building relationships that involve everyone in the process of learning and caring for one another.”

Malawi Matters’ HIV and AIDS education is reducing discrimination, overcoming stigma, and connecting people to treatment.



MALAWIMATTERS.ORG

PEACE IS ACTIVE,  
NOT PASSIVE;  
PEACE IS DOING,  
NOT WAITING.

Your gifts will help more people experience the freedom and dignity that Christ wants for everyone. Let us offer the peace of Christ in all times and all ways.

Thank you for your participation in the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

25%

of this Offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community.

25%

of this Offering will go to our mid council, joining with other congregations in our area to support peacemaking work in our region.

50%

of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

*The Peace and Global Witness Offering provides the means that allows us to offer ourselves to the pursuit of ending violence and bringing about reconciliation, no matter where it occurs in the world.*