

Lectionary for May

May 2: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21;
John 15:1-8

May 9: Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6;
John 15:9-17

May 16: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

May 23: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 30: Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

Please keep these folks in your prayers:

Arlene Besner	Stephanie Bennett	Dick Brown
Don & Sally Day	Vera Dice	Jim Berden
Esther Egbert	Judy Estell	Bernard Nelson
Carol Smith	Wally & Anne Schmidt	Sandy Rease

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Second Presbyterian Church Newsletter May 2021



Seeking and Serving Christ we are a Place for Growing Christians



On Pentecost – Wear Red!

We hope that you will wear the color red when you come to worship on Pentecost Sunday, May 23. It is the day we celebrate the giving of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Red symbolizes the “tongues of fire” that were seen that day. We read in Acts 2:

“Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit.”

On May 23 we will receive the Pentecost offering and give thanks for everyone who makes ministry possible here at Second Presbyterian Church.

F.I.S.H.

On communion Sundays we invite you to bring non-perishable food items and personal care items. We do so knowing that it is our privilege to feed the hungry and care for the poor as we are fed and sustained by the grace of God.

Feeding Individuals



Sharing Hope

We will receive communion on Pentecost Sunday, May 23. If you would like to join us for communion from home via live-stream, we have prepackaged communion cups for you to pick up.

From the Pastor's Desk

Peace and Grace!

This month I am sharing with you a note from our Presbytery Executive-Rev. Dan Saperstein:

In a way, it is fitting. The past year has been marked as much by anxiety, fatigue, and division over the murder of George Floyd and other unarmed African Americans as it has by the Covid-19 pandemic. The statements "Wear a mask" and "Black lives matter" can provoke equally polarized responses, especially among white Americans.

The guilty verdict against Derek Chauvin for George Floyd's nine-and-a-half-minute asphyxiation was a victory for justice and accountability. But it is not a cause for celebration. George Floyd is still dead, as are Daunte Wright and 13-year-old Adam Toledo, just last week. George Floyd's murder sparked a year of protests, but the deaths of unarmed Black Americans in police encounters continue unabated.

So let us not mistake the verdict as the end to a year of violence but see it as the beginning of our long struggle to dismantle structural racism. Just as the approval of Covid vaccines did not end the Covid pandemic, so one verdict does not end a pandemic of racist violence. It is only a first step towards the goal, not the goal itself. The pandemic of racism in America has been around for five centuries and will not go away easily or quickly. The mere fact that there was genuine uncertainty regarding the verdict of a murder captured on film for all to see – not because of reasonable doubt but because of a history of unreasonable acquittals – shows how much work remains before equality in the criminal justice system becomes a reality.

The Presbytery of Lake Huron is a Matthew 25 presbytery committed to the three emphases of building congregational vitality, eradicating systemic poverty, and dismantling structural racism. All three are important, but of the three, the Presbyterian Church has the most moral culpability in contributing to structural racism. It therefore requires our humble confession, earnest repentance, and commitment to restorative action.

We will someday go back to "normal" after the Covid-19 pandemic. There is no "normal" to which we can return after the pandemic of racist violence because there has never been a "normal" in our nation. Instead, we must fight to establish a new anti-racist "normal" in society, beginning with our own churches.

We are, each of us, vaccines against the pandemic of racism. We can inoculate the people with whom we live and worship by addressing our own racist attitudes and actions, and then speaking up, calling out, and dismantling racist assumptions, practices, and structures in our church and in society.

The Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, President and Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency posted the following prayer of the night of the verdict. May it become our own.

"Holy One, there is still much work to be done. The struggle for justice stretches out before us today just as it did yesterday and in days gone by. One decision has not changed the reality that many still live with fear. Equality is not yet realized, and equity is but a distant dream. Give us strength to continue the struggle today, tomorrow, and until your kin-dom comes. In the name of your Son, Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen."

Faithfully,
Dan Saperstein, Executive Presbyter
From the Lion's Den
Presbytery of Lake Huron

Mother's Day Flowers

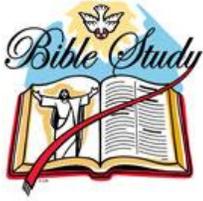
On Mother's Day, May 9, we'll decorate the sanctuary with flowers in honor or memory of Mothers. You bring the flowers and we'll put Mom's name in the bulletin. Stop into the office to sign up. Take the flowers home after worship.

Graduate Sunday

Please join us on Sunday, May 9 as we celebrate the 2021 seniors. We will also acknowledge the graduates of 2020 as we were not able to congratulate them last year. We will also award the Muriel Lakey Scholarship and the Mary Ann Ringertink-Geiersbach Scholarship during the service.

The office will be closed Monday, May 31 in observance of Memorial Day.

2nd at Second Lectionary Bible Study



Throughout the month of May, we will continue to examine the lectionary at 11:00 a.m. Sunday mornings. We will gather online for fellowship, Bible study on Sunday Scriptures, and prayer. If you would like to join in for some light conversation and have a chance to study the Sunday Lectionary, simply follow this link. **The**

same link each week. The meetings begin around 11:00 each Sunday. It will be great to "see" you!

Join the Zoom meeting at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8198599266?pwd=WFJoYklyYlpEa3FtT1VYUldoeHBjdz09>

Meeting ID: 819 859 9266

Passcode: 2665

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 819 859 9266

Passcode: 2665

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/krXXYDTq0>

Covid-19 Update for May

We all know as a congregation what has been happening with Covid-19. Yes, the test numbers have risen but seem to be leveling off for now. Some church's including First Presbyterian have gone back to only live streaming their services. As a committee we looked at all the factors to determine whether to keep in-person worship or go to live-stream only. With majority of the congregation vaccinated, practicing social distancing, wearing masks, and temperature checking when entering church, we do not see any reason to suspend in-person services or change the present rules of access to the building. So, for now it will remain at 50% occupancy, no hugging or hand shaking, and no congregating in the halls.

We all want to catch up with old friends and see what has been going on in the last year but if you wish to talk and catch up with other members, please go out to the parking lot and gather there. Keep praying and with God's help we will get back to normal.

Music Notes



Pre-Recorded Video Concert

It is NOT too late to participate! All vocalists and instrumentalists at all skill levels are welcome. We are recording video clips of a variety of music played or sung by soloists and ensembles to share with our congregation. This is perfect for those of you waiting to re-join our music ministry and have been waiting for an opportunity to ease back in. Recording sessions are being scheduled as the participants are available, at various times so that we do not have large groups gathered. The video concert will be released for viewing after we have all of the segments put together and edited. Contact Sara if you want to participate in some way.

Pentecost

Music plans are underway for Pentecost Sunday, which is coming up on May 23rd. If you are interested in doing something musical, now is the time to speak up and we can begin rehearsing.

Leading worship music

As some of our "regulars" have vacations scheduled this spring and summer, I am looking to add more people to the rotation of our three vocalists each Sunday. Let Sara know if you'd like to sub for someone who normally does this important task.

Special Music

We also need to recruit some folks to do special music on Sundays. Instrumentalists are especially welcome, as this helps to ease the musical preparation for our three song leaders if we can have someone else cover special music. Contact Sara to schedule a Sunday, and also if you need ideas for which music to select. Again, all vocalists and instrumentalists at all skill levels are welcome to do this.

Please read the weekly update for the most current information.

Mission News

The Mission Focus for the month of May will be **Forgotten Man Ministries, Saginaw County Jail's Bible & Book Drive.**



The Forgotten Man Ministries primary purpose is evangelism and discipleship among inmates in Michigan County Jails. We are collecting paperback books and large print Prison Bibles for the Saginaw County Jail.

Book Criteria: New, or used, soft-cover books ONLY. Books on religious matters and books with positive, uplifting messages are most valued. **No violence or crime genres.** Mysteries, spy novels, westerns, romance, puzzle books, crosswords and jigsaw puzzles, and large print books are needed. There are a few used bookstores in the area offering paperbacks at deep discounts. If you want to donate financially, make a notation on your weekly/monthly giving at church.

We encourage you to write dedications, Bible verses, kind thoughts, etc., for these books. Praying for the prisoners and for this ministry is the most important thing we can do for them. Bring your books and put them on the table (in the jail) in the front hallway. Thank You - Thank You - Thank You

REMINDER

40% of our Pentecost Special Offering this month will be going to help support the Forgotten Youth Ministries at the Saginaw County Juvenile Center on Hospital Rd. Forgotten Youth Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational ministry, with the mission of helping to transform juvenile offenders into healthy, productive, God-serving members of society. They do this by offering one-on-one mentoring, along with holding church services, in the juvenile center.

Help Wanted

We need a couple more members to join our Green Team. Joining the team would mean mowing, trimming, blowing the grass off the sidewalks all using the equipment we have at the Church. If you are interested, please call the church office @ 792-1023.



Session Assigned Committees

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2021 Per Capita Apportionment



At the beginning of each year our Per Capita Apportionment for ecclesiastical expenses comes due. Per Capita is part of being a Presbyterian and connecting to the Presbyterian Church as a whole; it is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together.

The 2021 per capita amount is \$28.76 per member (not per household). It goes to General Assembly, Synod of the Covenant and the Presbytery. If each member pays their Per Capita amount above their regular giving then pressure on our budget is reduced. Please mark Per Capita on your check or envelope.

Second Presbyterian Church



2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 	3 	4 	5 Mid-Week Devotional	6 	7 Conversations About Our Church	1/8 May 1- Church Clean-up
9 9:30 a.m. Worship Graduation Sunday 	10 	11 	12 Mid-Week Devotional	13 	14 Conversations About Our Church	15
16 9:30 a.m. Worship	17 	18 	19 Mid-Week Devotional	20 	21 Conversations About Our Church	22 
23 9:30 a.m. Worship Pentecost Communion 	24 	25  7:00 p.m. Session	26 Mid-Week Devotional	27 	28 Conversations About Our Church	29
30 9:30 a.m. Worship	31 Office Closed 			 		

BIBLE WORD SEARCH!

BASIC WORDS OF THE BIBLE

G E N T I L E B I B L E D
 O B A A B R T J E M D I I
 D P I I E S I M N I P B N
 T E M P T A T I O N J A H
 H R P S H L H R P I E P O
 E S R A L V E A N S R T L
 F E A C E A H C A T U I Y
 A C Y R H T O L Z R S Z S
 T U E I E I L E A Y A E P
 H T I F M O Y J R H L N I
 E E S I N N A J E W E H R
 R W E C L F A I T H M L I
 B S J E S U S C H R I S T

JESUS CHRIST
 SALVATION
 JEW
 GENTILE
 HOLY SPIRIT
 GOD THE FATHER
 PERSECUTE

PRAY
 TITHE
 MINISTRY
 BIBLE
 HOLY
 SACRIFICE
 FAITH

MIRACLE
 NAZARETH
 BETHLEHEM
 JERUSALEM
 BAPTIZE
 TEMPTATION
 SIN

CREATED BY MELINDA SKAGGS

About Jesus

A Y L O R D O B M E W E N I V J K S W C
 R B E L I E V E T D D U Q Z E F S U A M
 I V J V R S I J G C M D W X O M F S Y W
 A A M G Q B E J W P R Z P V M Y G E X X
 S Z F F Q J V S N I S F R G T G P J K U
 I S L W I F T M H A I S S E M L S L R K
 R N E T W R E P L E H T M L O M W Y E C
 F O A N G Y S L M S K Y S P C C I F V F
 B I D W E J O T B S T L W A R S J S W K
 W T E F X V T D N E I R F S V O R M U S
 B C R K E N I C F N E C X T G I A D O N
 J E S I E T A G P S O C K E N N O E N V
 U R E L A E H J R U R G I A L F I U R S
 A R P C S K Y M E O X Y T C O G M K R R
 Q U H G R I K X S E F B Y H A G L J P E
 P S G T T E H S L T B R D E A E Z K U B
 Z E F H U I A A C H K C H R G U M O C T
 Q R G Z G R O T Y G L E F I L M A B S I
 Q I Q K H J T K O I F L Z M L N E A U Z
 L P L W B O L O Y R X L T B H V L R L J

- JESUS
- SAVIOUR
- HELPER
- CROSS
- RESURRECTION
- VINE
- WAY
- LOVE
- CREATOR
- MESSIAH
- HEALER
- FRIEND
- SINS
- LIGHT
- FIRST
- TRUTH
- BELIEVE
- RIGHTEOUSNESS
- KING
- FORGIVENESS
- LORD
- TEACHER
- GATE
- LAST
- LIFE
- LEADER