

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Second Presbyterian Church Newsletter January 2022



Seeking and Serving Christ, we are a Place for Growing Christians.

Beginning Sunday, January 16, our new worship time will be 9:00 a.m.

From The Pastor's Desk

Grace and Peace! Happy New Year!

A new door is open. New Year's is like a door. A celebration of Christmas has filled our hearts with hope, peace, joy, and love. Christ is born! The Light of the World is here! The New Years' time is for us to go out into the world and carry all this joy with us. Like the Magi, came bearing gifts to Jesus, let us join in the journey of the New Year into a new beginning.

The visit from the Magi is noted in the poem below by Andrew King:

*They have crossed deserts and rivers,
inhaled the scent of wild grasses,
the perfume of strange blossoms,
tasted the dust of roads of sorrow
upon their tongues.*

*Their minds are open to possibility, to discovery,
they have watched the fresh sky,
they have scanned the old Scriptures,
they dared the deep questions,
persevering in the journey
until they found One they believed was their destination:*

*One for whom prophecies had been written,
for whom new stars had shined,
toward whom their roads had long been bending.
The journey is not done. The Babe
will grow, will beckon to newer ways
and to lifelong following.*

*Finding this One is but a beginning, an awakening,
an opening up of greater doors,
an invitation to horizons, farther roads
that lead to greater understanding –
and to greater challenges, fresher questions,
and quite possibly to the kind of joy
that outlasts dusty grief.*

*Come into this tent, traveler. Let us join this caravan of pilgrims, follow the One who has given us the
journey,
grow on his paths as they lead through the year.*

Prayer: Eternal God, you have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives you bless us with your love. Grant that in this new year we may know your presence, see your love at work, and live in the light of the event that gives us joy forever, the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (Book of Common Worship)
Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Philomena

Lectionary for January

January 2: Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:1-18

January 6 – Epiphany of the Lord: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12.
Matthew 2:1-12

January 9 – Baptism of the Lord: Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 16: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

January 23: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

January 30: Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

Please keep these folks in your prayers:

Arlene Besner	Sally Day	Dick Brown
Vera Dice	Nancy Huegel	Jim Berden
Vickie VonBerg	Pat Perea	Heather Rousseau
Ginny Rusch		



To keep the congregation abreast of the budget and financial needs of the church the Finance Committee has a chart on display in the main hallway with information regarding the church finances. We hope this will give everyone a greater understanding of our finances. We thank you for your commitment to the ministry and your ongoing support for the programs here at Second Presbyterian Church. We thank you for your faithfulness and dedication.

Financial Report as of 11/30/2021	
Income	210,789.21
Expense	200,599.95
Excess	10,189.26

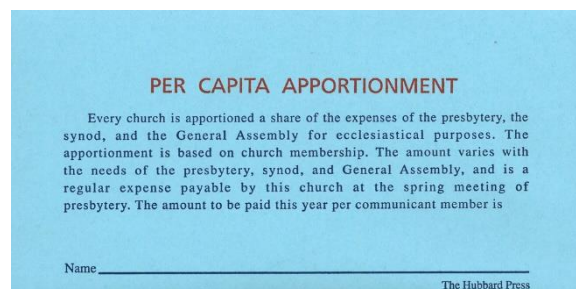
Estimate of Giving

A big “thank you” to everyone who has submitted an Estimate of Giving Card for 2022. We have received 51 Estimates of Giving for 2022, we went out 170, which means we have a 30% return. If you have not already done so, please turn in your blue **2022 Estimate of Giving** slip by either mailing it to the church or dropping it in the donation box. We are working on our budget for 2022 and many programs of the church depend upon your Estimate of Giving. Thank you for your faithfulness!

Offering Envelopes

Boxes of 2022 offering envelopes have been issued to those who completed an Estimate of Giving Card and indicated they wished to receive envelopes. If you did not complete an Estimate of Giving card you can complete a yellow Offering Envelopes request slip, found on the table in the entryway, and submit it to the office.

Per Capita



As fewer people use boxes of offering envelopes, we will place articles in the newsletter if there are special envelopes in the offering boxes. The special envelope for January is the Per Capita envelope. 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 total 2022 Per Capita for our church is \$8,207.00, which equates to **\$29.00 per member** (not per household). This 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.

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

"Go also the second mile" Matthew 5:41

During the past few weeks, the Mission Committee has delivered several bags of winter coats, snow pants, hats, gloves/mittens, scarves & boots to Brethren (new items only) & Arthur Eddy schools. These donations also included several handmade hats & mittens from our Busy Hands & Hearts group. We had such a large amount this year, due to the pandemic, that we also took a vanload to Old Town Outreach for their clothing giveaways. Thank You - Thank You for the donations & prayers from all who made this possible!

Another Huge Thank You to Second Presbyterian Church!! We "wrapped up" the Angel Tree project for 2021. As a congregation, we bought, wrapped & delivered 40 gifts to children in Saginaw County. This is yet another organization that touches the heart strings a bit -- what a labor of love. It is always nice to know that we have, once again, helped to make Christmas a little better for children & their families.

January Mission Focus will once again be taking a collection at the end of the month for '2 Coins a Meal' to help combat hunger. Get your buckets out to collect all your loose change during the month & bring it in on January 30th. A little goes a long way.

The Mission Committee made an \$800 donation to the PC-USA Disaster Relief -- December Tornadoes.

Also, watch for the announcements about helping at the Old Town Soup Kitchen.



Taking Down the Greens Sunday, January 9

Please plan to stay after worship on Sunday, January 9, and help us take down the greens. After worship we will “un-deck” the halls. The more people we have helping, the quicker we will finish.

Busy Hands and Hearts

“During 2021, we were able to donate 37 lap robes to area nursing homes. Many hats and scarves were delivered with coats to Old Town Rescue Mission. The Old Town Baby Pantry received a total of 45 knit baby hats, 2 pair mittens and 3 baby blankets. We were also able to donate 13 knit hats to the after-school program at Hemmeter Elementary School. Thanks to all who have made these donations possible.”

Florence Gilmour Circle









All women of the church are invited to join us on Wednesday, January 12 at 9:30 a.m. as we gather for fellowship and fun.

PNC Update

The PNC has not met for 2 weeks over Christmas and New Year. We have been reviewing the Pastor Information Forms and will begin reaching out to appropriate candidates once we reconvene on January 13. Please continue to pray for the Second Presbyterian Church PNC as we continue our efforts to find the best Pastor for our church.

January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 
2 9:30 a.m. Worship Communion	3	4	5	6 8:30 a.m. Prayer Group	7 	8
9 9:30 a.m. Worship Taking Down the Greens	10	11	12 9:30 a.m. Florence Gilmour Circle	13 8:30 a.m. Prayer Group	14	15 
16 9:30 a.m. Worship	17	18	19	20 8:30 a.m. Prayer Group	21	22
23 9:30 a.m. Worship	24	25 	26	27 8:30 a.m. Prayer Group	28	29
30 9:30 a.m. Worship Annual Congregational Meeting	31					

2nd @ Second

2nd @ Second resumes on January 16 after worship. The continuation of "The Story of the Bible" one of the Great Courses of Religion and Theology by Professor Luke Timothy Johnson. Join us in the church library for a time of discussion after watching a short video, sharing and reflection.

Welcome to the Staff Collin Whitfield

Collin Whitfield has served as Director of Music Ministries at First Presbyterian Church of Saginaw since 2018. He is excited to begin a new chapter at Second Presbyterian Church, even as he continues his music ministries at First Presbyterian. An award-winning composer, organist, and pianist, Collin was recognized in the May 2021 issue of *The Diapason* as one of the twenty leaders under the age of 30 for his technical achievements and creativity in the fields of organ and church music. He frequently composes music for worship and his compositions have received awards including the James Highsmith Award for new orchestral music, first prize in the American Choral Directors Association Choral Composition Competition through Central Michigan, and first prize in the Biennial Art Song Composition Competition at SF Conservatory. Collin holds a Master of Music degree in organ performance from Central Michigan University, where he studied with Dr. Steven Egler. He received his Bachelor of Music from San Francisco Conservatory of Music, where he studied with notable composers David Conte and Mason Bates. Please give Collin a warm Second Pres welcome.

Presbytery Personnel Update

At its December 7 Stated Meeting, the Presbytery of Lake Huron voted to dissolve the ministry relationship with Executive Presbyter Dan Saperstein, effective December 31, per a negotiated agreement. Although Dan remains in good standing in ministry and as a member of Presbytery, in accordance with our separation ethics policy, after December 31 and for a period of one year, he will not be available to perform any ministry functions in the Presbytery without the prior authorization of the Commission on Ministry and Ministry Preparation. We thank Dan for his service to the Presbytery.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation & Corporation on Sunday, January 28



The Session has set the date for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of Second Presbyterian Church for Sunday, January 28, following the worship service. Any business of the congregation and the corporation can be conducted during this meeting.