



FIRST PRESS

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HARBOR SPRINGS MICHIGAN**

7940 CEMETERY RD • P.O. BOX 866
231-526-7332 • FPCHS.ORG



What We Believe

Among the many important things that our church administrator, Linda O'Dell, does is maintaining our website. She is in the process of getting a new website prepared. As we are updating our webpage, we have tried to state what we believe as a congregation.

One of the important things about our faith as Christians is that it is personal, but not private. It is individual, but also corporate. We recognize that we can worship on our own, but we also need to come together in worship as a body. We study and pray on our own, but also together with sisters and brothers in the faith. It can be difficult at times to figure out who *we* are along with the challenge of figuring out who *I* am.

We are a congregation made up of many individuals who come to their faith from different backgrounds and perspectives. Consequently, it is a balancing act to try to say enough to characterize accurately who we are without saying so much that we minimize our diversity.

Here is what your session has agreed on:

As a Christ-centered, missional church, we seek to be disciples who are rooted in Scripture and bear fruit in the world. We affirm the historic Christian faith as expressed in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds and the emphases of our Reformed forebears as expressed in the five solas (Scripture alone, Christ alone, Faith alone, Grace alone, and to the Glory of God alone). We seek to be a church in which the love of God, known in Jesus Christ, shapes our entire lives in the power of the Holy Spirit.

As you look over this brief statement, take some time to consider your own understanding of the faith. Notice that this isn't only a statement about what we believe, but also why it matters – to bear fruit in the world and to shape us as disciples. How would you say things differently? Is there anything here you struggle with? What would you add if this was a personal statement about what you as an individual believe? Finally, how can you share what you believe with others? Could you invite them to join us in worship on a Sunday morning or in a bible study or small group?

Please join me and your session in praying that when our new website launches it would reach people and help them know who we are and, more importantly, who God is.



Join us for worship in Holy Week.

**Good Friday Service at
FPCHS**

April 15 at 7:00 pm

In person and Streamed Online

Easter Sunday At FPCHS

Join us as we gather to worship our Risen Lord Jesus Christ!

**Sunday, April 17
10am**

The service will also be streamed.



Upcoming Sermons in April:

April 3	John 12:20-33	"Good News—For All"
April 10 (Palm Sunday)	Mark 11:1-11	"Good News—Even Better than Expected"
April 15 (Good Friday)	Psalm 22	"Good News—Good Friday"
April 17 (Easter)	Mark 16:1-8	"Good News—He Is Risen!"

Art & Music Ministry

Monica Pavel Kissinger, Director

The months of February-April, the last months of cold and snow, are always challenging in this area for anyone that is restless for the warmer weather and sunshine. Many of our members find ways to escape the cold to places where the sun shines brightly. While other areas just a few hours south from us are already enjoying Spring, we still get new snow and can continue skiing for another couple of months. To be honest, this year more than in any other year since we moved up here, I feel like I need the sun and the nature to come to life sooner. I feel like it's harder to taken in the bad news of the world in the gloomy-gray season.

However, no matter what, each year I look forward to the Lenten season and Easter celebration. The hymn and anthem selections for this time are my favorite. During the Lent, Kip's presentations focus on the Good News amidst the tumultuous bad news we hear from all over the world. The Lenten hymns are somber, meditative, and reflective. They all focus on Jesus's sacrifice for our sins and the need of Jesus's love for us, the sinners. The authors of these hymns use intimate poetic lyrics to express the humble and devoted attitude of the sinner that is found at the feet of Jesus. We can find the Good News in these texts that portray Jesus as a loving savior that stretches his hand to comfort us.



On Easter, we sing about a Prince of Peace that is victorious, that defeated death and the enemy. We rejoice and find hope in His victory, for through Him we'll also overcome the struggles of this world. We know that a God that was just like us, hurt, betrayed, persecuted, rejected, ridiculed, and killed, walks with us every step of our way through this life. He showed that He's on our side by paying the ultimate price. To know that we are never alone, and that if He's on our side no one else can stand against us, is the most wonderful Good News!

Monica Pavel Kissinger
Director of Arts and Music Ministry

Deacon News

We can always depend on constant changes occurring in our lives. Some are welcomed and others, not so much. The elimination of restrictions within our Church is one change that can be viewed either way, as we are each unique. And yet, spiritually we are all God's children seeking and celebrating our shared faith in our Lord.



With that spirit, we celebrate the many gifts the Lord is providing. One such gift, **home communion** is again available to those who are unable to attend worship. Should you find that you are in that position and would like to receive communion in your home, please let your "shepherd" or any deacon know. Then you will receive a call after worship on Communion Sundays to schedule this visit. And please, if you do not know who your shepherd deacon is, please contact Sue Stackhouse, (shstatckhouse@gmail.com) or Susan Lafferty, (soozlafferty@gmail.com). We are praying that supportive, caring relationships are growing between your shepherd and you.

Yours in Christ, Martha Cook, Craig Cottrill, Fran Kochensparger, Susan Lafferty, Linda Loepke, Marinda Miller, Linda Rosenow, Pat Slebiska, Barbara Stone, Sue Stackhouse, Sharon Van Buren and Ima Williams.



2022 Officer Ordination

Building & Grounds Team News

Sometimes the little things add up to make a nice change for the good. As you look around the inside of our church, you may see a change but not quite know what it is. It's brighter, roomier, tidier. Not different, but better.

Our Deacons, Ushers and members of the Building and Grounds team have been quietly making a few upgrades; reupholstering a chair here, moving some furniture there, simplifying bulletin boards, cleaning the carpets, pews, chairs, and getting rid of the clutter.

A deserved thank you goes out to all of those who have helped with an eye for the detail and the joy in making the change. These changes enhance our worship space, our fellowship space and our service to the community.

~ Kenny Stewart, Chair



Stephen Ministry

Hurting? Struggling? Discouraged? Stressed? Confused? Broken? Are you feeling any of these burdens? Do you know anyone who is experiencing a difficult situation? We have Stephen Ministers at FPCHS who care for people facing tough times. A Stephen Minister is:

- A congregation member with gifts for caring, who was carefully selected to serve in this role.
- A child of God who has received 50 hours of training in providing emotional and spiritual care.
- Someone who will be there for his or her care receiver to meet faithfully, listen, pray, support, and encourage.

If you, or someone you know, is experiencing a tough time, accept care from a Stephen Minister. God doesn't expect you to bear your burdens alone.

Please call the church or email linda@fpchs.org if you would like to talk to someone about getting a Stephen Minister for yourself or someone else who is grieving. You do not have to walk the journey alone.

2022 FPCHS Leadership

Ruling Elders

Class of 2022

Karen Bezilla	ksbgolfr1@gmail.com
Fran Borchers	franceslborchers@yahoo.com
Lou Kasischke	louk@gtlakes.com
Kenny Stewart	kenstewart5@gmail.com

Class of 2023

Sue Blevins	jsblev@charter.net
Chuck Huebner	charles.huebner@att.net
Kathleen Serra	foster_Kathleen @me.com
Roy Tipton	rrtipton@me.com

Class of 2024

David Crouse	david@crouseentertainment.com
Jim Kochensparger	jkochensparger@icloud.com
Judy Patberg	judythe.patberg@gmail.com

Deacons

Class of 2022

Susan Lafferty	soozlafferty@gmail.com
Linda Loepke	ploepke@charter.net
Linda Rosenow	lsrosenow@gmail.com
Barbara Stone	barb@thepetoskeystones.com

Class of 2023

Martha Cook	marthacook81@gmail.com
Craig Cottrill	ccottrill@freeway.net
Sue Stackhouse	shstackhouse@gmail.com
Ima Williams	imajowilliams@msn.com

Class of 2024

Fran Kochensparger	fdkochensparger@icloud.com
Marinda Miller	pawpawhs61@gmail.com
Pat Slebiska	pslebiska@gmail.com
Sharon Van Buren	sharonvb01@gmail.com

April 2022 - FPCHS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1 -12:00 PM: AI-Anon -6:00 PM: Cleaning	2 -8:00 AM: AA
3 : Communion -10:00 AM: Sunday School -10:00 AM: Worship -11:00 AM: Fellowship Hour -6:00 PM: Cleaning	4 -9:00 AM: PEO Group	5 -8:00 AM: Men's Fellowship -9:30 AM: Women in the Word -4:30 PM: Deacons -7:00 PM: AA	6 -2:00 PM: Community Bible Study at Perry Farm -4:30 PM: Women's Chorus -5:30 PM: Kirk Ringers	7 -8:30 AM: Men's Bible Study	8 -12:00 PM: AI-Anon -12:00 PM: Building & Grounds Team -6:00 PM: Cleaning	9 -8:00 AM: AA
10 -10:00 AM: Sunday School -10:00 AM: Worship -11:00 AM: Fellowship Hour -6:00 PM: Cleaning -6:00 PM: Grange	11 -2:00 PM: University Club -6:30 PM: Mission Team	12 -8:00 AM: Men's Fellowship -9:30 AM: Women in the Word -5:30 PM: Caregiver Support -7:00 PM: AA	13 -2:00 PM: Community Bible Study at Perry Farm -4:30 PM: Women's Chorus -5:30 PM: Kirk Ringers	14 -8:30 AM: Men's Bible Study -3:30 PM: Worship Team	15 -12:00 PM: AI-Anon -6:00 PM: Cleaning -7:00 PM: Good Friday Service	16 -8:00 AM: AA
17 : Easter Sunday -10:00 AM: Sunday School -10:00 AM: Worship -11:00 AM: Fellowship Hour -6:00 PM: Cleaning	18 : Office Closed -7:00 PM: Emmet Co. Farm Bureau	19 -8:00 AM: Men's Fellowship -9:30 AM: Women in the Word -6:30 PM: Session -7:00 PM: AA	20 -2:00 PM: Community Bible Study at Perry Farm -4:30 PM: Women's Chorus -5:30 PM: Kirk Ringers	21 -8:30 AM: Men's Bible Study	22 -12:00 PM: AI-Anon -6:00 PM: Cleaning	23 -8:00 AM: AA
24 -10:00 AM: Sunday School -10:00 AM: Worship -11:00 AM: Fellowship Hour -6:00 PM: Cleaning	25 -2:00 PM: University Club	26 -8:00 AM: Men's Fellowship -9:30 AM: Women in the Word -5:30 PM: Caregiver Support -7:00 PM: AA	27 -2:00 PM: Community Bible Study at Perry Farm -4:30 PM: Women's Chorus -5:30 PM: Kirk Ringers	28 -8:30 AM: Men's Bible Study	29 -12:00 PM: AI-Anon -6:00 PM: Cleaning	30 -8:00 AM: AA -1:30 PM: LTCS Concert