

Presby Press

RAMBLINGS FROM THE REVEREND

Serving the Church Universal

We are presented with unique opportunities to serve the Lord in our lives each day. A recurring theme that we have taken up in the last five years is that ministry is not simply the things that occur within the four walls of the church but ministry is connecting with God's will for our lives and communities in every moment. We are blessed by God with gifts and talents to be a blessing to those around us: spouse, family, friends, church, volunteer groups, schools, workplaces, neighborhoods, and expanding our reach to make an impact for God's Kingdom throughout the world.

Indeed, many of us do marvelous work on a daily basis - ministry that is noticed by others and ministry that is noticed only by the Holy Spirit - to make this world a more Christ-like place. It is a wonderful blessing to be a part of a church that strives to embrace the transforming good news of Jesus Christ.

I invited you to join us for Free Lunch Mondays and enjoy the energy and fellowship of sitting at table with the people of our community. We served over 40 people on our first Monday of the summer and I pray that we have served more in the time intervening. Free Lunch Mondays are for you! Come enjoy and get to know our community better.

There are also buildings and grounds tasks that could use your helping hand. I love seeing people take the initiative to simply do things that need to be done. From gardening to window washing to parking lot maintenance, we have a wonderful ad hoc crew who take it upon themselves to get things done. If you have some time you'd like to dedicated in this direction, please contact the office or Vance Huff and we will get you connected to a project that fits your time and talent. For instance, I think we are about to repaint the exterior ramp and I know we could use some of your skills.

Also, as you will read elsewhere in this newsletter and hear more about on July 12, we have been gifted with a beautiful pipe organ that will supply music for us for decades. It could use some loving restoration and Ed Arter will lead that charge and could use hands that are willing to learn how to bring the organ back to it's full glory.

Finally, a church rises or falls on the quality of its leadership. We are blessed with dedicated and talented deacons and elders who lead us in giving care and spiritually leading us throughout the year. They do a wonderful job and continue to stretch themselves and their gifts to serve the Kingdom as they discern the Spirit's direction.

Starting in July, there will be nomination forms in the fellowship hall to assist the nominating committee in discerning our future leadership. I encourage you to prayerfully consider whether God is calling you or someone you know into leadership and to fill out a form.

May you feel Christ's blessings overflow in your life,

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SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS MONTH

COFFEE HOUR

July

Sue Chapel

Would you like to be the face of hospitality for our congregation on Sunday morning? Helping with coffee hour is a good way to extend loving fellowship to our worshippers. If you'd like to help or want more information, call the office at 810.735.5755

USHERS

10:00am

July 5

Cindy & Dave Shane

July 12

Jesse & Sharon Foster, Gary Childs, Nettie Holtslander

July 19

The Chapin Family

July 26

Deb Wasylyshyn, Sue Chapel

LITURGISTS

10:00am

July 5

Cindy Shane

July 12

Dick Honaker

July 19

Doug Spalding

July 26

Mary Leitkam

COMMUNION SERVERS

July 5th

10:00am

Laura Huston
and
Sue Eaton

If you would like to be a communion server, please contact Sue Eaton.

IN WORSHIP

If you'd like to serve in our worship services, please contact Cindy Shane at (810)750-8674.



A BIRTHDAY PRAYER

Gracious God, I come before you to praise and adore Your Holy Name this day for the gift of _____ in Your Church Universal and here at Linden Presbyterian. I ask for your blessings upon _____ this day and in the coming year, that s/he may come to a deeper knowledge of Your love, grace, and peace in mind, heart, and spirit. In Jesus Christ's name I pray. Amen.

July	1	Amanda Brinch	17	Janet Miller
	2	Karrisa Shoen	19	Chris Wolfgram
	3	Jeff Neuville	20	Lillie Vincent
	4	Marge Kimble Nancy Robare	21	Tammy Neuville
	6	Mylan Huyck Johnston Robare	22	Robert Glaspie
	8	Ann Gibson	24	Liz Knuth
	9	Jessica Cole Rebecca Shoen	26	Dorothy English Sharon Foster
	11	Kim Neuville	27	Geri Geske Carol Hall
	12	Marshall Riggs	29	Jaden Jones
	13	Frank DeCaire	30	David Brandt
	14	Felicia Shoen		

CONTACTS

Pastor

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Youth Ministry Intern

Jake Kirk 810.730.3783

Organist/Choir Director

Edward Arter 810.735.5755

Praise Band

Johnathan & Melissa Dugan and Jarrod Montague
lpcoffice@lindepres.com

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We are busy gearing up for one of our biggest weeks of the summer – Vacation Bible School! VBS 2015 will have a Heroes of the Bible theme, and it will run August 3-7 from 9AM-noon. We will be taking a look at David, Ester, Daniel, Joseph, and our number one superhero, Jesus. If you've never been involved with a VBS before, you may be curious as to how it is run day-to-day. Each morning, the kids gather in the sanctuary in their age groups (pK-K, 1-2 grade, 3-4 grade, 5-6 grade). We begin by introducing what the topic will be, and the kids learn their memory verse of the day. Then, the different age groups begin a rotation, learning about each hero through a story, music, crafts, games, and a snack. The 5-6 group is the exception. These older kids begin in the sanctuary and then head out into Linden to do a community service project, and they return for the story and snack. Finally, all of the kids regroup in the sanctuary to review the verse and sing a song. Whew, it's a busy week!

This year will be extra special because the curriculum is all being planned by our members. Kristen Garmyn, Fred Lewis, Gemma Amendola, Kim Neuville, Donna Ingamells, and Gretchen Sutto have been meeting since last November to begin planning for this year's VBS. We have decided upon the characters, the verses, and have matched the games, crafts, and snacks to complement the theme. While all the other churches will be rotating through the same three VBS curriculums that are available this year, ours will be new and fresh, which is really exciting!

As you may have been able to tell, it takes A LOT of people to make VBS happen. We need volunteers to help register kids as they arrive. Nine leaders are needed to help guide the different age groups around. At least two volunteers each are needed to lead crafts, story, games, and snack time. Extra runners are always useful to hang out with the younger two groups. On top of that, we need volunteers to help us decorate and clean-up at the end. To make a long story short (too late), we need YOU!

I don't like to just think about our youngest disciples as the future of the church; they are our present. Proverbs 22:6 reminds us to "train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." We need to be training up our kids now in the present so they will be well equipped to lead us into the future. When the disciples wanted to turn the children away, Jesus said to let them come to Him. LPC is ready to have the children come to us, but we need more volunteers in order to make this happen. If you are interested in helping, great! Please contact Kristen Garmyn (kristengarmyn@gmail.com/810.280.5294) or Gretchen Sutto (gsutto915@yahoo.com/810.287.9438) and they will get you plugged in! Still on the fence? Contact them anyway, and they'll talk you into helping!



YOUTH CALENDAR

Summer is here which means camps are in full swing! Please continue to pray as we are sending over 100 kids and leaders to three separate camps from Genesee County. The middle and high school youth groups from Linden Presbyterian are sending 14 kids! We ask that you pray relentlessly for us on these trips, for safe travels, time at camp, the speakers, leaders and our kids. Kids will be meeting, growing and strengthening their relationship with Jesus and we ask that they be covered in prayer.

Middle School – Michindoh June 21 – 25th

High School – Timberwolf Lake July 13 – 18th

High School – Wilderness Ranch backpacking July 24 – August 2nd

Youth group will resume in September the first Sunday after labor day weekend with middle school meeting from 6 – 7pm on Sunday nights at the church, and high school 7:30 – 8:30pm Sunday nights at the church.

Campaigners in Linden will resume at Kim Herbert’s house on the first Friday of school at 6am, all 9 – 12th graders welcome!

Financial Snapshot

The finances through April 30, 2015:

	Income	Expenses	
Budget	\$69,305	\$68,625	
Actual	<u>\$80,925</u>	<u>\$70,202</u>	
	\$11,620	(\$1,577)	Total Difference: \$10,043

We appreciate your commitment to the Kingdom of God at LPC. Our expenses at this point are higher than the budget chiefly due to annual or semi-annual expenses that are due in the first few months of the year. Please help us stay financially and spiritually strong through the summer!

Deacon on Duty

Liz Knuth

810.513.7719

In the event you have a pastoral care emergency after office hours, the Deacon on Duty is available to take your call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They will be able to notify the proper people and provide you the care you need.

Talk of the Pres.

Meet Connor Steffey a member of the middle school youth group.

Full name: Connor Lee Steffey

What's your birthday: August 9, 2001

School: Will be an 8th grader at Lake Fenton Middle School

Who's in your family: Mom, Dad, older brother and younger brother

Favorite Food: Steak

Hobbies: Basketball and swimming

Favorite place you've been: Timberwolf Lake

Where is one place in the world you want to go: Hollywood

Favorite childhood memory: Accepting God at Timberwolf on the hill right next to the clubroom.

Favorite movie: 21 Jump Street

Who has made the biggest impact in your life and why: My older brother Kyle, he got me into wildlife and he helps me grow with God, takes me to bible studies, and is a great person.

Biggest Fear: Getting hurt really badly

Favorite Color: Blue

Favorite class in school: Language

Michigan or MSU: MSU

Something nobody knows about me: I'm a good singer

Favorite music group: Mumford and Sons

Favorite bible verse: Matthew 19:19

When did your relationship with God begin: Last summer at wildlife camp

How has a relationship with God changed your life: Life is 1000 times better with Him.

People think I'm... Funny

I wish I could stop... A great basketball player from getting by me

If I've learned one thing in my life its... To be respectful



MISSIONAL CONNECTIONS

Hello, Friends!

We are gearing up for a fun-filled July! During the month of July, we will be holding a month-long food drive. We are calling it the 500lb Food Drive! Throughout the month of July, we will work together as a congregation to collect 500 pounds of food for our F.I.S.H. Food Pantry! On average, our Fun Fair has brought 400 pounds of food and this year, we decided to try and outdo ourselves!

Throughout the month, please bring your canned goods and non-perishable items to the 500lb Food Drive tables in Whitney Hall. They are the two round tables on either side of the entrance to Whitney Hall from the Sanctuary. We will be keeping track of the donations as they come, and make updates about how close we are to our goal!

On July 26th, after our outdoor service, we will be having a potluck to celebrate our success with the food drive. Please bring a dish to pass! Hamburgers, hotdogs, and beverages will be provided. Come join us for this fun day of celebration and fellowship!

Also, on Thursday, July 23rd, we will be serving dinner at Carriage Town Ministries in Flint. There will be a sign up sheet in Whitney Hall within the coming weeks. There are 5 available spots for this trip, as space is limited in the kitchen. If you feel called to serve in this way, please contact Kristen Garmyn at kristengarmyn@gmail.com. Thank you!

In Christ,

Missional Connections Team

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

500 lb Food Celebration – July 26th... Don't miss it!

On July 26th we will be celebrating 500 pounds of food gathered, collected, and donated by you, our generous and faithful LPC family for the Food Pantry! The day will begin at 10:00am with a worship service under the pavilion followed immediately by a potluck/barbeque. Grilled hotdogs and hamburgers will be provided along with beverages and table service. Please bring a dish to pass. We look forward to enjoying God's bounty with you on that day!

VBS Needs

We are still in need of several volunteers to assist with VBS. In addition, we also are looking for solid colored pillow cases. If you have some you can donate, please leave them on the hearth in the Fireside Room. Please contact Kristen Garmyn or Gretchen Sutto.

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship of Our Time

How much time should we give the Lord each week? How are you using the time God has given you? Time is the heritage of every person. Regardless of your occupation or the stage of life you are in, each of us has the same number of hours in a day. Many necessities and opportunities demand much of our day. Our work may take up a large percentage of our time. Being a good spouse, parent, employer or employee requires time. As Christians, we have spiritual priorities as well. How much time should we set aside for evangelism, discipleship and the ministries of our church? With everything competing for our time, how can we balance our responsibilities and maintain our spiritual duties as well?

As a steward, we should manage our time wisely. We have heard of tithing our financial treasures, but what about tithing our time? Tithing our time reflects a thankful, obedient attitude and acknowledges God as the source and owner of all we possess. Tithing our time teaches us to put God first. A faithful steward serves because he has a grateful heart. If we truly believe that every second, minute and hour are a gift from God, our priority should be to make the best use we can of our time.

There are so many opportunities within our home, church and community to use our time in a way that glorifies and pleases God. To name some examples: Prayer, Bible reading and study, attending Church worship services, volunteering with out-reach programs such as Carriage Town Ministries and The Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, spending time with a shut-in, visiting with an elderly relative or neighbor, offering a ride to someone that can no longer drive, teaching Sunday School, joining the chancel or bell choir, serving as an usher, volunteering to be a liturgist, serving communion, serving coffee hour, helping maintain our landscaping, joining a small group, joining a session committee, serving as an elder or deacon, volunteering for youth support, shoveling snow in the winter, working in the FISH food pantry, joining the men's and women's groups, providing flowers for the chancel. Currently we really need volunteers for our up-coming Vacation Bible School. How about you? Put a smile on God's face; find time to serve Him today and every day!

JULY CALENDAR

ONE WORSHIP AT 10:00AM

7 TH AT 7:00PM	BOARD OF DEACONS MEETING
8 TH AT 7:00PM	COMMITTEE/TEAM MEETINGS (WORSHIP COMM. AT 6:00)
13 TH - 18 TH	YOUNGLIFE CAMP (9 TH -12 TH GRADERS)
26 TH AT 10:00AM	WORSHIP UNDER PAVILLION
26 TH AT 11:00AM	500 POUND FOOD CELEBRATION & POTLUCK
26 TH - 31 ST	WILDERNESS RANCH (HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH)

MONDAYS

11:30AM FREE LUNCH MONDAYS
8:00PM AA IN FIRESIDE ROOM

THURSDAYS

8:00PM AA IN FIRESIDE ROOM

WEDNESDAYS

10:00AM QUILTERS

August Newsletter Deadline

Communication is key to a vital congregation!

Please send all submissions to lpcoffice@lindenpres.com by
Monday, July 27 at 5:00pm

Music Ministry Kimball Pipe Organ.

Coming to the Sanctuary of Linden Church is The Kimball Pipe Organ Op. 7027 built between 1927- 28. This small instrument is donated by Wendy Mueller and Family. It was acquired from Christ Enrichment Center, formally, Christ Episcopal Church, where it was played until 1988. Before its move, the console, windchests, bellows, swell shades and pipes were located in the balcony and the blower in the basement of the building. There are nine ranks of pipes totaling close to 520 pipes. A rank is 61 for the keyboards and 32 for the pedals. The Kimball console (keyboards and pedal) will be placed where the Allen is located. All pipe work will sound from behind the Chancel wall like the Allen, the difference is you will be able to feel the Kimball because it moves the air surrounding it. Before the first note is heard, the organ will be refurbished and reconfigured to fit the new space. Also it will be rewired to comply with new wire codes and when in place, all pipes will be voiced for Linden's Sanctuary. If you want to help with refurbishing, which entails releathering, sanding and shellacking windchest, wiring relays and switches for the instrument, contact or see Ed Arter. For this project, many hands will see it refurbished in short order. Thank you again to Wendy Mueller and Family for beautiful gift. *Soli Deo*

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