



# The Soo Chimes

First United Presbyterian Church



January 2017

Volume 48 Issue 1

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

I have been asked about the current state of Israel and where we as a nation and a church stand with regard to Israel. There has also been a lot of interest in a recent UN resolution that the Obama administration either failed to block or was working behind the scenes to craft. To understand the situation we need to go back a few decades. After Hitler's genocide of over 12 million Jews, Stalin's killings of Jews and Europe's history of anti-Semitism, it was decided the Jewish people needed their own state. A UN resolution was enacted in 1947 that would make that a reality.

The founding of Israel would come at a cost; Palestinians who lived in these regions were dispossessed. Imagine how we in the UP would have felt if the UP had been given for land for the Jews in 1947 and our families were dispossessed? To their credit today most Palestinians live peaceably with Israel either in their own land or working in Israel. The terrorist are, of course, working hard to foment chaos and death trying to destabilize the region.

Israel becoming a state thrust them into international politics. Two wars the first in 1947-1948 and the second the 1967 "six-day war" concluded with Israel extending its territories at the expense of the Arab states

that attacked them. The UN has tried to work for peace in this region since the founding of Israel. Israel actually gave back some of the territories it gained in the wars for the "Land for Peace" deal. This enabled land to be set aside for a Palestinian state. The terrorists have been working hard to undo any peace agreements between the Jews and the Palestinians. Israel did not receive the promised peace upon giving up land for peace.

So why is the international community so fixated with Israel? The UN permanent Security Council whose approval is needed for any resolution to reach the floor is comprised of certain nations. Russia and China are two such nations and they are close allies with Iran. Iran is the main sponsor of terror in the Middle East and has a policy articulated by their previous "president" of not only destroying Israel but killing all the Jews in Israel. So China and Russia will keep supporting their allies and their attempts to punish Israel through the UN. The UK and France are also on the permanent Security Council, but Europe only wants to play the "good cop" to America's "bad cop". In this way they can be the "peace brokers" between the "hotter heads". Europe will not protect Israel on the

*(Continued on page 2)*

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**The Purpose of the First United Presbyterian Church is to:**  
*Invite people to know and glorify God*  
*Grow together as followers of Christ*  
*Serve others through the power of the Holy Spirit*

*Receive your newsletter by email and in color, too. Call the office to find out how!*

permanent Security Council as this would threaten their “peace making role”.

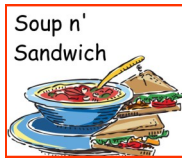
That means the only one on the Security Council who protects Israel is America. America has done this for decades, until the Obama administration decided in the last few days to break with that precedent. What does this mean for Israel? Israel could be “forced” into unfavorable parameters for peace due to this most recent UN resolution. A lot depends on what comes out of a January peace summit and another possible UN resolution before Obama leaves office. The new administration will undoubtedly try to undo this and any other actions against Israel, but it could be difficult and complicate international politics and America’s relations with other nations.

Given that Israel is surrounded by enemies, has powerful nations such as Russia and China against it for the sake of Iran and other allies, and Europe has shown no desire to protect Israel, this move by the Obama administration is troubling. Psalm 122:6 tells us to “Pray for the peace of Israel...” Maybe this should be one of our New Year’s resolutions to pray for the peace of Israel.

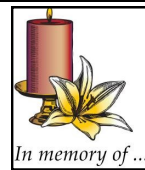
Peace in Christ,  
Mark



**SUNDAY,  
JANUARY 15TH  
200 PM**



**January 22nd  
FUPC  
Choir**



*In memory of ...*

**Dorthea Allen  
12/02/16**



**The next Deacon's  
Meeting will be held on  
January 15, 2017**



**Freighter View Assisted Living  
605 West Portage Avenue**

Virginia Blair  
Audrey Bush  
Emily Hamilton  
Delores Swick

**McKinley Manor  
2023 West 4th Avenue**

Jeanne Gantz  
Jane Kellan  
Dorothy Smart  
Vera Steffens

**Tendercare— Sault Ste Marie**

**1011 Meridian**

Jim Schmidt  
Jean Smith

**WMH Long Term Care  
500 Osborn Boulevard**

Lois Myers

**Out of Town**

Della Porter  
2920 Crystal Lane Room 426  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

June MacInnis  
900 Glen Haven Circle, Apt 2  
Petoskey, MI 49770

*Need a  
Ride to Church?*



Call Office

**Deacon**



Please  
Call

If you or someone you know are in the hospital and would like a visit from the Deacon's please contact the church office or one of the Deacons



Family of Dorthea Allen, John White, Shane Miller, Ryan and Mary Frances Meister & Family, Jean Smith, Dorothy Smart, Tom and Ellen Woodgate, Pat White, Kevin Tastor, Gina Gough, Jim Schmidt, Jane Kellan, Ruth Thesing, Judy Knutsen, Joyce Cross, Wendy (Menard) James, William Kellan, Lilly Donaldson, Margaret Vonderwerth & her family, and all members of missionaries and the U.S. Armed Forces.

**DEACONS SPONSOR MITTEN TREE**

*The Deacons again sponsored the Mitten Tree and collected 51 items. These colorful hats, mittens, and gloves will be distributed to local school children, to help keep them warm during our chilly winter weather.*

*Thanks to all who purchased or took the time to knit these donations.*

*Your help is greatly appreciated!*

Cookie Walk



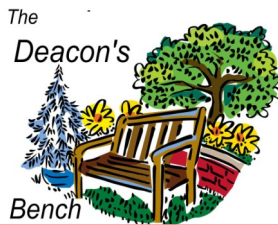
**Deacon's Cookie Sale**

A Success!!!

A variety of baked goods and a generous church Family, a total for \$237 was raised by this event

All the proceeds raised will benefit the Deacon Food Pantry.

*Happy New Year* ♡ *Happy New Year* ♡ *Happy New Year*



With the new year comes new beginnings and commitments. The Deacons need new members,=. Perhaps this is the year you would like to assist our congregation's spiritual mission. People are needed to send a card, visit our members, hold a monthly service with communion at Freighter View, pray for others, and feed Jesus' sheep. No contribution of time and talent is too small.

Prayerfully yours,  
Jeanne Shibley, chair





Thomas and Cheryl Thoresen 01/07  
Charles and Audrey Zane 01/13



**DEACONS' WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE**

The Deacons will be Continue collecting winter clothing throughout January to distribute to those in need. If you have new or gently-used winter coats, hats, gloves/mittens, boots, or sweaters that you are willing to donate, please bring them to the church office. Clothing collected will be offered to those attending Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry.



**Tom & Cheryl Thoresen**



**ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS'**

It's Annual Report time again. Your reports are important. Deadline for submission of your FUPC Annual Reports is January 9, 2017. Submit to the church office or email ([office@soopresbyterian.org](mailto:office@soopresbyterian.org)) your reports to the attention of Audrey Zane.

Reminder - FUPC Annual Congregational Meeting will be January 29, 2017



Samantha Reid-Goldberg	01/01	Barbara MacLaren	01/12
Emma Newhouse	01/02	Ronald Kerzner	01/14
Connie Wanzer	01/02	Danna Sanderson	01/14
Lee Myers	01/03	Carla Nicholls	01/16
Paul Sabourin	01/03	Sarah McLarahmore, IV	01/17
Julie Walsh	01/03	Cheryl Thoresen	01/17
Aubrey Agar	01/05	Fred Amarose, Jr.	01/19
		Carol Brawley	01/20
		Jase Averill	01/21
		Jacklyn Johnson	01/21
		Benjamin Reattoir	01/21
		Treyce Sanderson	01/25
		Mary Lee Schmidt	01/27



**Northland Barbershop Chorus**

**Come enjoy, during our January 22nd Worship Service as the Northland Barbershop Chorus joins us to present energetic and entertaining music.**

**Let us welcome the Northland Barbershop Chorus as they share their talent during the Worship Service.**

***We Sing. That They Shall Speak.***



# New Year Promises

It seems from year to year we make promises that are difficult to keep, like, losing weight, quit smoking and drinking. These are promises that are broken within a very short time. I am sure I made a promise or two that fell by the way side but I do remember the dates I kept the New Years promise many years later. I remember being in Daytona Beach, Florida on my 34th birthday and I had a habit of smoking a pipe and I told our kids that I was going to give up the habit and I threw the pipes into the Gulf. I have never smoked since that time.

After consuming alcohol and wine during my sales days for 27 years with Republic Steel Corporation and retiring after our merger with Jones and Laughlin Steel, forming LT V Steel a Dallas based financial company. LTV Steel went bankrupt 2 years later. Socially and at home I continued to consume wine, but on November 1, 1987 I promised to never drink again and this promise has been kept to this day.

Other promises, like weight control has not been a problem over the years. I seem to enjoy Marilyn's fresh vegetable soups that are served regularly in our household. Even an Omaha Steak is welcomed every once in a while and it doesn't upset the apple cart.

Here I have written about some of my personal habits and goals accomplished over the years. If you watch Joel Olsteen on TV, you know he is a very positive preacher. He prefers dreamers,

and individuals who believe in the bible and seek the very best in life. Here it is 2017 and we made it through another year and I am sure we would all like to improve our various relationships with each other. The clock is ticking and many of us are on borrowed time.

How many of us begin our day thinking about our relationship with God, not just about our relationships with our friends? I am sure we hope that when our needs are the greatest we hope God is close by. Once we realize He is not a part time God, we understand he will always be with us even into eternity, because we go nowhere by accident.

We need to always be able to control our choices and by doing so we control our destiny. Everything we do as Christians is tied to a values lifestyle. Promises and resolutions make us think into the future and this places us in a very positive position. Remember that God wants us to resemble him in every way possible.

Probably the best description is on my Presbyterian college ring, the University of Tulsa, which says, "Wisdom, faith and service for Christ and the State." This has followed me since graduating in 1956.

The Apostle Paul's message to all of us is the central platform on which to build all of our lives. God has given all of us a purpose and because of our faith we can make promises because we have a purpose. Without faith we are powerless.

A man's heart plans the way but the Lord directs his steps.

Don Myers, CRE

Amount requested: \_\_\_\_\_  
Check payable to: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fund Name/Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Account Name/Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Purpose of purchase/transfer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of requestor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of authorizer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of approval: \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Check issued (# and date): \_\_\_\_\_  
Transfer conf # and date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Purchasing Items for the Church


The first of the year is always a good time to remind everyone of proper procedures for the running of the church, so we are taking this opportunity to discuss buying things for the church.

We have a procedure in place that makes sure purchases are recorded properly, that we save money by taking advantage of our tax free status as much as possible, and that we maintain our approved budget and don't spend more than we should be from any of the church funds. It's a fairly straight forward process and to make it even easier purchase order request forms have been placed in their own mail box outside the office.

So – here goes:

Prior to making a purchase for the church:

Obtain and fill in the purchase order – if you are unsure of some of the information, contact the office to either gather the correct information or to be directed to the proper committee. The form will require the requester's name, what the purchase is and what it is for, how much it will be, and where the money is being distributed from. Once the form is complete, turn it into the office so the committee chair, or designated person, can be contacted to sign off on the purchase. Once this has been done, the requester will be contacted to either make the purchase or be told that the request was denied, and why.

This is a quick and, fairly painless  , procedure and if everyone makes sure to follow the steps it will make the church run more efficiently and insure we are being good stewards of our resources.



# Christmas Cantata



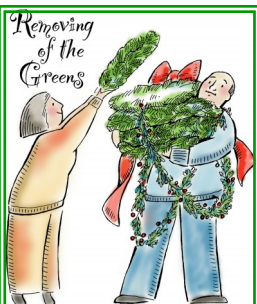
Thanks to the Choir for a wonderful, song filled Christmas Cantata to proclaim the real reason behind this season. Not only did we have a beautiful Service, but then we partook of a delicious meal prepared by the Endowment Committee. Thanks to all who prepared this meal fit for kings & queens and thanks to all those who helped in decorating, serving, and cleaning to complete this wonderful morning.

# Endowment Dinner



The Textile Social Group meets every Thursday in the Social Hall

Anyone is welcome to stop in from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Bring a sack lunch, your projects (sewing, knitting, crocheting, puzzles, or a good book) or just the desire to socialize with others. Coffee, tea, and dessert are provided. Stop in for a hour or four!



Unfortunately, the Christmas season is drawing to a close and that means the sanctuary decorations will need to come down soon and we will be removing them after the January 8th service. If you can help with this, please plan to stay after service. Thanks.

**RESCHEDULED**  
**NEW TIME: 9:00 A.M.**



Women's  
Bible Study



# *A Joyous Christmas Season at First United Presbyterian Church*



*The sanctuary was decorated, with trees, brass Advent wreath*



*and the beautiful Nativity donated by the Blair families*



*The children came to celebrate "The Birth of Jesus," with many angels, stars, shepherds, Wiseman, kings, narrators, and musicians.*

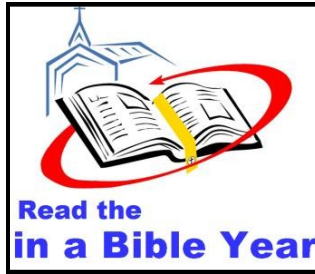


*Thanks to all who purchased poinsettias in memory & honor of loved ones.*





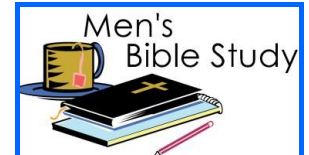
# January



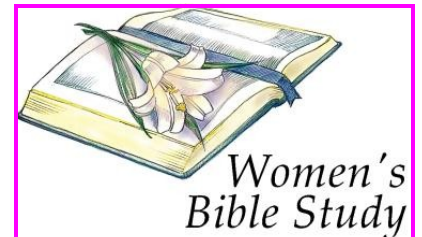
1	Luke 5:27-39	Genesis 1-2	Psalms 1
2	Luke 6:1-26	Genesis 3-5	Psalms 2
3	Luke 6:27-49	Genesis 6-7	Psalms 3
4	Luke 7:1-17	Genesis 8-10	Psalms 4
5	Luke 7:18-50	Genesis 11	Psalms 5
6	Luke 8:1-25	Genesis 12	Psalms 6
7	Luke 8:26-56	Genesis 13-14	Psalms 7
8	Luke 9:1-27	Genesis 15	Psalms 8
9	Luke 9:28-62	Genesis 16	Psalms 9
10	Luke 10:1-20	Genesis 17	Psalms 10
11	Luke 10:21-42	Genesis 18	Psalms 11
12	Luke 11:1-28	Genesis 19	Psalms 12
13	Luke 11:29-54	Genesis 20	Psalms 13
14	Luke 12:1-31	Genesis 21	Psalms 14
15	Luke 12:32-59	Genesis 22	Psalms 15
16	Luke 13:1-17	Genesis 23	Psalms 16
17	Luke 13:18-35	Genesis 24	Psalms 17
18	Luke 14:1-24	Genesis 25	Psalms 18
19	Luke 14:25-35	Genesis 26	Psalms 19
20	Luke 15	Genesis 27:1-45	Psalms 20
21	Luke 16	Genesis 27:46-28:22	Psalms 21
22	Luke 17	Genesis 29:1-30	Psalms 22
23	Luke 18:1-17	Genesis 29:31-30:43	Psalms 23
24	Luke 18:18-43	Genesis 31	Psalms 24
25	Luke 19:1-27	Genesis 32-33	Psalms 25
26	Luke 19:28-48	Genesis 34	Psalms 26
27	Luke 20:1-26	Genesis 35-36	Psalms 27
28	Luke 20:27-47	Genesis 37	Psalms 28
29	Luke 21	Genesis 38	Psalms 29
30	Luke 22:1-38	Genesis 39	Psalms 30
31	Luke 22:39-71	Genesis 40	Psalms 31



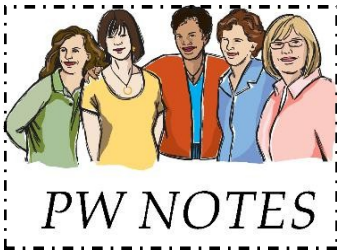
**Robert Stratton**  
and  
**Jeanne Shibley**



Men's Bible Study every Friday morning at 9:00 am.  
All men are welcome to join us!



Woman's Bible Study  
Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am  
All ladies welcome to join!



Thanks  
for a  
**Great  
Year!**



Circle 3



Meeting  
Thursday,  
January 12th  
9:30 a.m.



**BAZAAR 2017**

This is good time to start thinking about the bazaar for next November. We're looking for a theme and ask that you be watching for items on sale as you make plans. We need a chairperson and decoration person or persons.



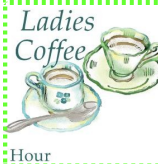
**THANK YOU**

A big thank you to everyone who helped, supported, and participated in our Elf Breakfast. It was a magical morning filled with fun and laughter.

A special thank you to Mary, Mary and Ruthie!

*Sometimes, you just have to Believe!!*

**Circle 3**

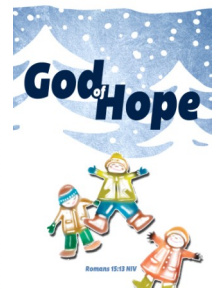


**WOMEN'S COFFEE**

Tuesday , January 17th at 9:30 AM

Please join us for fellowship and treats.

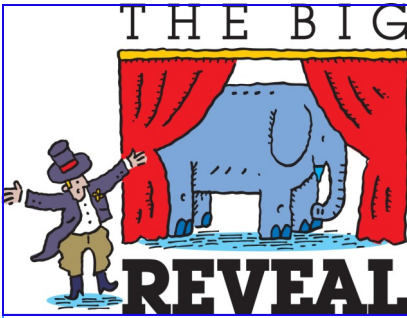
**All Ladies welcome!**



Good friends,  
good food!  
Fun had by  
All!

**Christmas Party**





We revealed the newly renovated room to the group at our Christmas Party Dec 18<sup>th</sup>. We are so blessed to have the congregation giving us lots of support and we know God has his hands on all of the projects and ideas that have come into this new space. We will be having a "Grand Opening" to the congregation after service January 8. We will welcome people down to check out our new space.

Many have asked what we need and how they can help. In order to have this Christmas reveal we purchased the items we would need with Session approval already. But we are now looking for some help to reimburse the account. There is a board of envelopes, with amounts of money on them. You can take an envelope and inside is a picture of an item we purchased for the Youth Room. You can return the envelope to the office or in the offering during service, with your donation inside. Thanks again for all the support.

We will return to our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday meeting dates starting January 8<sup>th</sup>. If you have someone you would like us to contact and invite to attend please let us know.

Thanks again, Mark and Melissa Gabbard, Chad and Denise Folkersma and all the High School Youth Students.



*New Women's Bible Study Time*

**Wednesday's**

**9:00 am**



*Stain Glass Window  
East Sanctuary Window*



**THREE LAKES LAY ACADEMY WINTER 2017 CLASS OFFERINGS**

Thursdays from January 12 – March 16, 2017, all classes held at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Ignace, MI 49781, 906-643-7870. Each class is \$10 for the semester. Students will be required to purchase books. Scholarships are available. Classes are team taught by Presbyterian and Lutheran teachers.

Year-to 12/26/16 offerings	\$173,219
Year to 12/26/16 expenses	\$165,392







COME ALONG!

## MASON JAR nightLIGHT

Because Jesus is the light of the world, his followers don't need to fear darkness or life's dark times. Make this nightlight to remind you of Jesus' light and presence.



### What you need:

- Work area with good ventilation
- Mason jar
- Clear glue that works on glass
- Paintbrush
- Glass stones
- Tealight candle
- Lighter
- Adult supervision

### What you do:

1. Starting at the top of the jar, brush glue on a small section.
2. Press glass stones onto the glue in rows. Let dry.
3. Continue gluing stones, in small sections, until the entire jar is covered.
4. When dry, place a candle inside. Light with adult help.



# Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?  
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.





*Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.  
Then read the completed Bible verse.*

KEY:  **A**  **E**  **I**  **O**

“ \_ \_ M T H \_ \_ L \_ G H T \_ \_ F  
T H \_ \_ W \_ R L D . W H \_ \_ V \_ R  
F \_ L L \_ W S M \_ W \_ L L N \_ V \_ R  
W \_ L K \_ N D \_ R K N \_ S S .”  
J \_ H N 8:12, NIV

Answer: “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.” John 8:12, NIV



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:00a Early Social Hour (WR) 9:00a Adult Bible Study (SH) 10:00a Worship Service 10:00a Sunday School 12:00p Soup Kitchen 	<b>2</b> 7:00p ACT Study Grp 7:00p Boy Scout Meeting	<b>3</b> 12:00p AA Meeting (Lib)	<b>4</b> 9:00a Women's Bible Study 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 10:00a Textile Social (SH) 12:00p AA Meeting (Lib)	<b>6 Epiphany of the Lord</b> 9:00a Men's Study Grp 	<b>7</b> 9:00a N.A. 7:00p A.A.
<b>8</b> <b>Baptism of the Lord</b> <b>Removal of the Greens</b> 9:00a Early Social Hour (WR) 9:00a Adult Bible Study (SH) 10:00a Worship Service 10:00a Sunday School 11:30a Christian Ed. Meeting 12:00p Soup Kitchen	<b>9 Annual Report Deadline</b> 7:00p ACT Study Grp 7:00p Boy Scout Meeting	<b>10</b> 12:00p AA Meeting (Lib)	<b>11</b> 9:00a Women's Bible Study 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b> 9:30a Circle 3 Meeting (WR) 10:00a Textile Social (SH) 12:00p AA Meeting (Lib)	<b>13</b> 9:00a Men's Study Grp	<b>14</b> 9:00a N.A. 7:00p A.A.
<b>15</b> 9:00a Early Social Hour 9:00a Adult Bible Study (SH) 10:00a Worship Service 10:00a Sunday School 11:15a Deacon's Meeting (Lib) 12:00p Soup Kitchen 2:00p Freightier View Service	<b>16</b> 5:30p Session Mtg (WR) 5:30p Trustee's Mtg (L-lib) 7:00p ACT Study Grp 7:00p Boy Scout Meeting 	<b>17</b> 9:30a Ladies Coffee (WR) 12:00p AA Meeting (Lib)	<b>18</b> 9:00a Women's Bible Study 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b> 10:00a Textile Social (SH) 12:00p AA Meeting (Lib)	<b>20</b> 9:00a Men's Study Grp	<b>21</b> 9:00a N.A. 7:00p A.A.
<b>22 Northland Barbershop Chorus</b> <b>Annual Report Distribution</b> 9:00a Early Social Hour 9:00a Adult Bible Study (SH) 10:00a Worship Service 10:00a Sunday School 11:30a Soup N' Sandwich (SH) 12:00p Soup Kitchen	<b>23</b> 8:30a Life Line Screening 7:00p ACT Study Grp 7:00p Boy Scout Meeting	<b>24</b> 12:00p AA Meeting (Lib)	<b>25</b> 9:00a Women's Bible Study 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b> 10:00a Textile Social (SH) 12:00p AA Meeting (Lib) 6:00p Boy Scout Leader Mtg	<b>27</b> 9:00a Men's Study Grp	<b>28</b> 9:00a N.A. 7:00p A.A.
<b>29 Annual Congregational Meeting</b> 9:00a Early Social Hour 9:00a Adult Bible Study (SH) 10:00a Worship Service 10:00a Sunday School 11:15a Annual Congregational Mtg 12:00p Soup Kitchen	<b>30</b> 7:00p ACT Study Grp 7:00p Boy Scout Meeting	<b>31</b> 12:00p AA Meeting (Lib)				

**First United Presbyterian  
Church**

555 Bingham Avenue  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783



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Fax: 906-632-4666

E-mail: [office@soopresbyterian.org](mailto:office@soopresbyterian.org)

Web site: [soopresbyterian.org](http://soopresbyterian.org)

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Monday through Friday

(closed 11:30-12)

**Sunday Worship Schedule**

Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School (all grades) 10:00 a.m.

**Church Staff**

Rev. Mark Gabbard, Minister

Don Myers, CRE

Brenda Ransom, CRE

Kay Boyne, Music Director

Denise Goldade, Financial/Administrative Assistant

Jesse Witte, Sexton

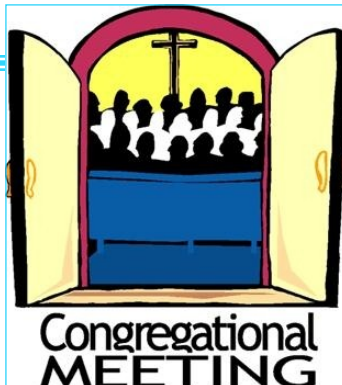
Non-profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Permit No. 213

**Deadline for February issue:  
January 20th**



**Sunday, January 29, 2017 (after service)**

**Find out what's happened during the past year  
and what we expect in the coming year.**

**Annual Reports will be available for pick up and review  
beginning on Sunday, January 22.**

**Committee reports are due in the church office by January 9th, for  
inclusion in the Annual Report.**