



The Soo Chimes

First United Presbyterian Church



May/ 2023

Volume 55 Issue 5

Pastor's Message



During worship this Easter season, an individual pointed out how fortunate we are to have the choir we do. Indeed, we are blessed with many individuals who are musically talented and are willing to share these gifts with us as a congregation. The call for recognition was warranted. In a church such as ours, many give of their talents and gifts. I would like to recognize a group in our church that has been a blessing to this congregation. I am speaking of the Deacons. The Deacons are responsible for running our food pantry. Roughly 20 bags or more of groceries are given out on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 3:30p-5:00p. There is a lot of shopping, transporting and organizing that is required for such an effort. During the Lenten season, Deacons are responsible for overseeing our potlucks on Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday. With our other boards and groups, they share the responsibility for soup and sandwich and cookie Sundays. The Deacons, as our Book of Order states, share in a ministry of compassion. Our Deacons certainly live up to this call with calls, cards and visits to members in the congregation who are in need. They also have a meeting once a month to discuss what they are doing and what they could do better in serving the congregation.

We do need the help of the congregation in this ministry. We (the Deacons and I) know about our members in one of the nursing homes or assisted facilities. The Deacons visit them, and I also visit

and serve communion to them. The new communion elements we have used since COVID make it easier to serve communion to those in nursing homes or assisted living facilities. We also make hospital calls, but with the HIPA laws, we might not know someone is in the hospital. This is where we need the congregation's help. If you know someone who is in the hospital or needs a visit please let Nicole, Doris or Jeanne who are on Deacons or me know. Unfortunately, during COVID we were not allowed access to the nursing homes or the hospital. During COVID I was only allowed in the hospital in emergency situations. We tried to stay in contact with individuals during that time by phone, but it is good to be able to see people in person now. Please pray for the Deacons in all the work they do.

Peace in Christ

-Mark

We're adding a new article to the newsletter:

What Does *That* Mean?

There are a lot of words, items, terms, etc. that are used around the church that, those who have been around *forever*, :) forget that not everyone knows what they mean. So, each month 1 or 2 items will be explained in greater detail.

(see page 4)

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***

Newsletters are sent by email unless you have made other arrangements.



Dee Leuvoy, Robert Corbin, Erick Florip, Terry Mason, Karen Brook, Scott Wallace, Nellie Harrington, Tom Woodgate, Gina Gough, Kimberly (Swick) Jewell, John Burgess, Joyce Cross, Sandy Shaw, Jane Kellan, Jeffrey Burgess, Carolyn Shaw, Della Porter, Donna LaPlaunt, William Kellan, Lillian Donelson, Patricia Farnhill, Dave & Leslie Henderson, Geraldine Carnahan, Tara Jean Brody, Wendy (Menard) James and all members of missionaries and the U.S. Armed Forces.

Please keep us up to date on your prayer requests.

Food Pantry



Distribution

5/9– Pat & Patty

5/23– Mary Frances & Jeanne Shibley

Shopping & Bagging

Doris Boogerd



PEW MAINTENANCE



Cheryl Thoreson



Mens Bible Study
9:00 AM every Friday!



Sunday
May 21st

Rides Available

Transportation Deacons

- † Cathy Akre
- † Cheryl Thoreson
- † Jeanne Shibley



If you need a ride to church please contact the office



Out of Town

Della Porter
Cross Roads Village
6600 Constitution Blvd
Room 605
Portage, MI 49024

At Home

Mary Jane Bernier
Flora Fortin
Carolyn Shaw

Freighter View Assisted Living

605 West Portage Avenue
Audrey Bush

Medi-Lodge

1011 Meridian
Jane Kellan

McKinley Manor

2023 West 4th Avenue
Ardith Bawks
John and Barb Kenn
Peg Zenda



Choir Practice

9:15 am Sundays
6:00 pm Wednesdays




MAY

BIRTHDAYS



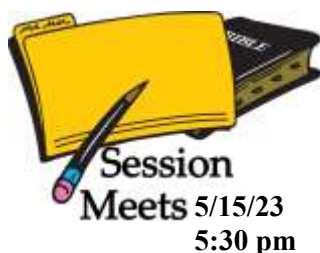
Mary Dueman	05/05	Kristeen Mason	05/16
Jaimee Gerrie	05/02	Mary Stanaway	05/17
Meta Geyer	05/03	Glenn Trumble	05/21
Phyllis McKechnie	05/03	Ethan Hill	05/24
Colton Schmidt	05/04	Renee Lawrence	05/25
Elizabeth Martin	05/06	Charles Zane	05/25
Olivia Martin	05/06	David Bernier	05/26
Sue Kaunisto	05/07	Darla Krueger	05/29
Loren Corbin	05/09	Ronald Cross	05/30
Angela McKee	05/09	Emma Folkersma	05/31
Carla Grenier	05/15		



Newsletter Deadline

**15th of each
month**

If you would like anything placed in the newsletter, please provide all of the information, in written form, to Nicole no later than the deadline each month. Emailed items are best.



JUNE 26 - JUNE 29

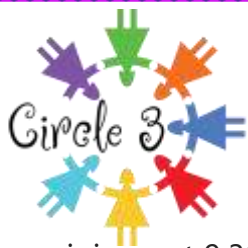


What Does *That* Mean?

Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE's)

Commissioned Ruling Elders are ordained elders who have taken training to help minister where there is a shortage of congregational leadership to allow for having the Word preached and the Sacraments administered. CRE's are locally authorized. They have no standing beyond their presbytery and the particular ministry to which they are commissioned. CRE's work in partnership with, and under the guidance of, ordained ministers. The perspective and experience of such dedicated ordained elders coupled with the theological education and experience of ordained ministers brings a wealth of gifts to enrich the ministry of Jesus Christ in the particular community served.

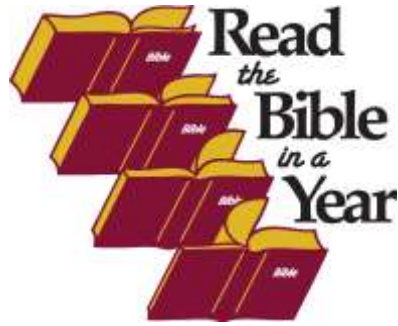
Brenda Ransom is our church's Commissioned Ruling Elder and she works under the guidance of Rev. Gabbard. Brenda is not often able to join our congregation in worship because she is usually preaching at one, or more, of the area churches that do not have a Called Minister. (Hint for next month's article) We are very fortunate to have her talents available.



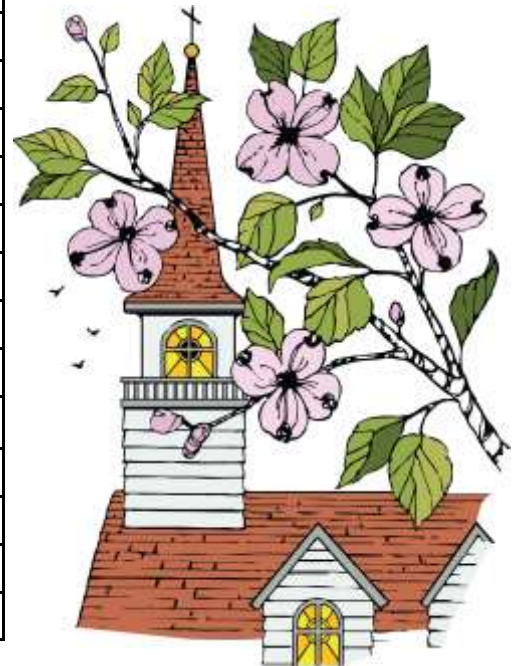
Circle 3 will be welcoming Tracy Holt as our guest speaker for our May meeting. She will be providing information on the recent opening of the Teen Home on 3 Mile Rd. which was one of our recent Monthly Mission projects. There will be a Q and A time also.

Please join us at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 11th in the Westminster Room to learn more about this mission field right here in our own home town.





1	Acts 14	Joshua 22	Job 31
2	Acts 15:1-21	Joshua 23-24	Job 32
3	Acts 15:22-41	Judges 1	Job 33
4	Acts 16:1-15	Judges 2-3	Job 34
5	Acts 16:16-40	Judges 4-5	Job 35
6	Acts 17:1-15	Judges 6	Job 36
7	Acts 17:16-34	Judges 7-8	Job 37
8	Acts 18	Judges 9	Job 38
9	Acts 19:1-20	Judges 10:1-11:33	Job 39
10	Acts 19:21-41	Judges 11:34-12:15	Job 40
11	Acts 20:1-16	Judges 13	Job 41
12	Acts 20:17-38	Judges 14-15	Job 42
13	Acts 21:1-36	Judges 16	Psalms 42
14	Acts 21:37-22:29	Judges 17-18	Psalms 43
15	Acts 22:30-23:22	Judges 19	Psalms 44
16	Acts 23:23-24:9	Judges 20	Psalms 45
17	Acts 24:10-27	Judges 21	Psalms 46
18	Acts 25	Ruth 1-2	Psalms 47
19	Acts 26:1-18	Ruth 3-4	Psalms 48
20	Acts 26:19-32	1 Samuel 1:1-2:10	Psalms 49
21	Acts 27:1-12	1 Samuel 2:11-36	Psalms 50
22	Acts 27:13-44	1 Samuel 3	Psalms 51
23	Acts 28:1-16	1 Samuel 4-5	Psalms 52
24	Acts 28:17-31	1 Samuel 6-7	Psalms 53
25	Romans 1:1-15	1 Samuel 8	Psalms 54
26	Romans 1:16-32	1 Samuel 9:1-10:16	Psalms 55
27	Romans 2:1-3:8	1 Samuel 10:17-11:15	Psalms 56
28	Romans 3:9-31	1 Samuel 12	Psalms 57
29	Romans 4	1 Samuel 13	Psalms 58
30	Romans 5	1 Samuel 14	Psalms 59
31	Romans 6	1 Samuel 15	Psalms 60





PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN News

Plans are underway for our summer special event. Our June 20th meeting will be a salad luncheon followed by speakers from a couple of our local service organizations. We will


open this meeting to other local church ladies as well as our area Presbyterian church ladies. More information will be coming within the month. Plan ahead and put June 20th on your calendar as a day of food, fun, and fellowship.

Plans are progressing for our Rummage Sale on August 5th. Doris Boogerd, Anita Weinrick, and Tina Kay are heading up this project. We look forward to lots of nice, slightly used items for this sale. Keep us in mind as you do your spring cleaning. We cannot accept old style TVs or obsolete computer items, but just about anything else sells. This is a major fundraiser so we need help from our entire church family to make this another success. All proceeds go to our missions projects.


We also have ladies working on the “New Beginnings” project. We know of two ladies expecting babies this year and we are excited to welcome them into our church family. Watch for further news.

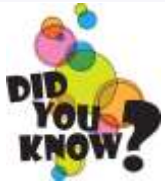
Our next Meeting is May 16th at 12:00 noon. We will be finalizing our June “special” meeting plans, Hope you can come. Your input is always welcomed and appreciated.

Reminder: Every woman in this church is a member of Presbyterian Women and we would love to have more of you join us. If you are interested and would like us to schedule some late afternoon or early evening meetings for our working ladies, we will seriously consider it. Give a call to Alegra (906-632-3972) or Jessica (906-203-6898)



If someone in your family is graduating from high school or college, FUPC would like to recognize them during the May 21st worship service. Please provide their name and a brief bio to the Church office by Monday, May 15. Any questions can be directed to Jessica Kuenzer or Melissa Gabbard. The church office email is office@soopresbyterian.org.





How is the First United Presbyterian Church of Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan Organized?

Greetings. My name is Tom Corbin. I am one of the elected Elders of our congregation and Session has given me the task of writing a monthly article for the Chimes.

This month, I will attempt to explain how our committees work, what they do, how they are managed and who is currently on each of them. As a sophomore elder (second year - not sophomore!!) my task is a "learn as I go" task, so please be patient with me. I will start with our own church's organization for those who are newer.

Who are we?

We are part of "PCUSA" which stands for Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The governing bodies of PCUSA are:

- + The General Assembly—*top governing level*
- + The Synod—*regional (geographic) level*
- + The Presbytery—*district level*
- + The Session—*local congregation*



Our Office of the General Assembly is located in Louisville, Kentucky and can be found online at <https://www.pcusa.org/>



Our Office of the Synod is The Synod of the Covenant and is located in Bloomfield Township, Michigan and can be found online at <https://synodofthecovenant.org/>



Our Office of the Presbytery is the Presbytery of Mackinac and is located in Petoskey, Michigan

Our Session is elected by our congregation. Our church can be found online at <https://www.soopresbyterian.org>

Our denomination uses The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) as our guide for government. It consists of two parts:

- + Part 1 is The Book of Confessions. It contains the Nicene Creed, the Apostles' Creed, the Scots Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, the Second Helvetic Confession, the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Shorter Catechism, the Larger Catechism, the Theological Declaration of Barmen, the Confession of 1967, the Confession of Belhar, and A Brief Statement of Faith - Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- + Part 2 is The Book of Order which consists of the Foundations of Presbyterian Polity, the Form of Government, the Directory of Worship and the Rules of Discipline.

All of the above is to assure you that there is a clearly defined structure for our church. Next month I will discuss how our local congregation is organized, based on the governance above.

If you would like to be added to the newsletter distribution, please contact the church office.

RUNNING THE RACE

Summer Reading Plan

Loving and following Jesus is like being a runner, the Bible says. And a special "prize" waits at the end of the race! When you're tired or your faith feels weak, trust Jesus to give you strength.

With this Summer Reading Plan, you can complete a box every day or every other day. Read the Scripture and complete each activity to grow closer to Jesus. When you reach the finish line, start over for more practice. Invite a friend or family member to "run" with you!

START

1 Corinthians 9:24-26
Run in place as long as you can. Think of ways you "run" for Jesus.

Deuteronomy 31:1-8
(focus on vs. 6)
How does it feel to know God always runs with you?

Hebrews 12:1-3
Find out what "perseverance" means. Why do runners need that?

Jeremiah 10:23
Pray that God always directs your steps.

Proverbs 3:5-6
Run backward, then in circles, then with eyes closed. Why are "straight paths" simpler?

Psalm 18:32
Memorize this verse.

Isaiah 41:10
Make a paper baton. Practice relay handoffs & discuss God's helpful hand.

Jonah chapter 1
(or a book about Jonah) What happens when Jonah runs from God?

Matthew 18:10-14
Think of a time you "wandered off" — and how Jesus found you.

Psalm 119:32
Why do we need to follow rules — and God's commands?

1 Peter 2:21
Play Follow the Leader with friends & family.

Matthew 24:13
Write the verse with sidewalk chalk. "Stand firm" by it and say it aloud.

Luke 15:11-32
(or a book about it)
Why did the son run away? What makes his father run?

John 20:1-10
Act out Easter morning, with runners sharing the good news.

Acts 8:26-40
Why did Philip run? How do you share Jesus with others?

Galatians 5:7
Make an obstacle course. What gets in the way of faith?

2 Timothy 2:5
Make a crown to remember your victory in Jesus.

Philippians 4:13
Write or tell someone your strengths.

1 Timothy 4:8
Do jumping jacks, stretches and physical training.

Hebrews 10:36
Talk about the promises God keeps to us.

Revelation 22:20
Pray, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

2 John 8
Play Tag, then "reward" yourself with a cold drink or treat.

2 Timothy 4:7
Draw or make a finish line and run through it.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10
Show muscles and say, "When I'm weak, I am strong."

Philippians 3:13-14
Make a sign that reads "Press on!"

James 1:12
Brainstorm ways to support and cheer other runners.

GO!




Great JOB!

FINISH

We did it!



2023

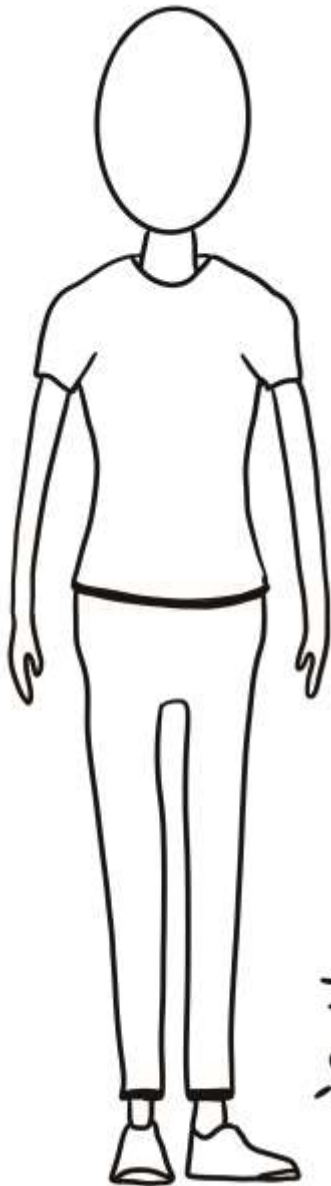
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:00am Early Social Hour 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	1 7:00pm Boy Scouts	2	3 9:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Choir Practice	4 10:00pm Textile NATIONAL DAY of PRAYER	5 9:00am Mens Bible Study	6 7:00pm AA
7 9:00am Early Social Hour 10:00am Worship Service 10:15am Sunday School	8 7:00pm Boy Scouts	9 3:30pm Food pantry	10 9:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Choir Practice	11 9:30am Circle 3	12 9:00am Mens Bible Study	13 7:00pm AA
Soup & Sandwich						
14 9:00am Early Social Hour 10:00am Worship Service 10:15am Sunday School	15 5:30pm Session Meeting 7:00pm Boy Scouts	16 5:30pm Trustee Meeting	17 9:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Choir Practice	18 10:00pm Textile ASCENSION DAY	19 9:00am Mens Bible Study	20 7:00pm AA
 21 9:00am Early Social Hour 10:00am Worship Service 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Deacons Meeting Recognition Sunday Coffee & Cookie	22 7:00pm Boy Scouts	23 3:30pm Food pantry	24 9:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Choir Practice	25	26 9:00am Mens Bible Study	27 7:00pm AA
28 9:00am Early Social Hour 10:00am Worship Service 10:15am Sunday School	29 7:00pm Boy Scouts (Office Closed) 	30	31 9:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Choir Practice	1 10:00pm Textile	2 9:00am Mens Bible Study	3 7:00pm AA
						

HAPPY Mother's DAY!

My mom is amazing because:



Draw your mom
a special picture of her
favorite thing!



This is
my mom



My mom's name is _____ but I call her _____!

You are the _____

mom in the whole _____!

I love you more than _____

and _____ and I think

you're funny when _____.

Thank you for always _____.

[My favorite thing to do with my mom is:]

Love you always, _____!



Vacation Bible School

Central and Algonquin United Methodist Churches, Faith Lutheran, and First United Presbyterian Church

111 East Spruce Street

Sault Sainte Marie, MI

June 26, 2023, through June 29, 2023

9:00 am until 12:00 pm

How Can You Help?

Hero Hotline Vacation Bible School is based on Romans 14:19: "So let's strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up." This verse reminds us that God calls us to be a part of a community - working to bring peace to the world is something that we are all called to do together.

At Hero Hotline, everyone's gifts are valued, and each Hero has a role play. Join us as we are called together to serve God!

I can help BEFORE Hero Hotline VBS. I can:

<input type="checkbox"/> Coordinate Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide Supplies	<input type="checkbox"/> Pray for VBS
<input type="checkbox"/> Distribute Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Mail Registration Forms	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Crafts
<input type="checkbox"/> Create Decorations	<input type="checkbox"/> Make Telephone Calls	<input type="checkbox"/> Set Up Classrooms
<input type="checkbox"/> Paint Backdrops	<input type="checkbox"/> Donate Snack Items	<input type="checkbox"/> Organize Donations

I can help DURING Hero Hotline VBS. I can:

<input type="checkbox"/> Take Photographs	<input type="checkbox"/> Be the Puppeteer	<input type="checkbox"/> Be a Greeter
<input type="checkbox"/> Take Video	<input type="checkbox"/> Be a Group Leader	<input type="checkbox"/> Pray for the children
<input type="checkbox"/> Be a Registrar	<input type="checkbox"/> Be a Teacher's Assistant	<input type="checkbox"/> Help wherever needed

I can help AFTER Hero Hotline VBS. I can:

<input type="checkbox"/> Send Thank You Notes	<input type="checkbox"/> Take Down Decorations	<input type="checkbox"/> Help Clean Up
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Please email to Jenny Shelley at centralumceducation@yahoo.com or give to your VBS Church Leader.

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

First United Presbyterian Church

555 Bingham Avenue
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783



906-632-7771
Fax: 906-632-4666
office@soopresbyterian.org
soopresbyterian.org

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 1p.m.
Monday—Thursday

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

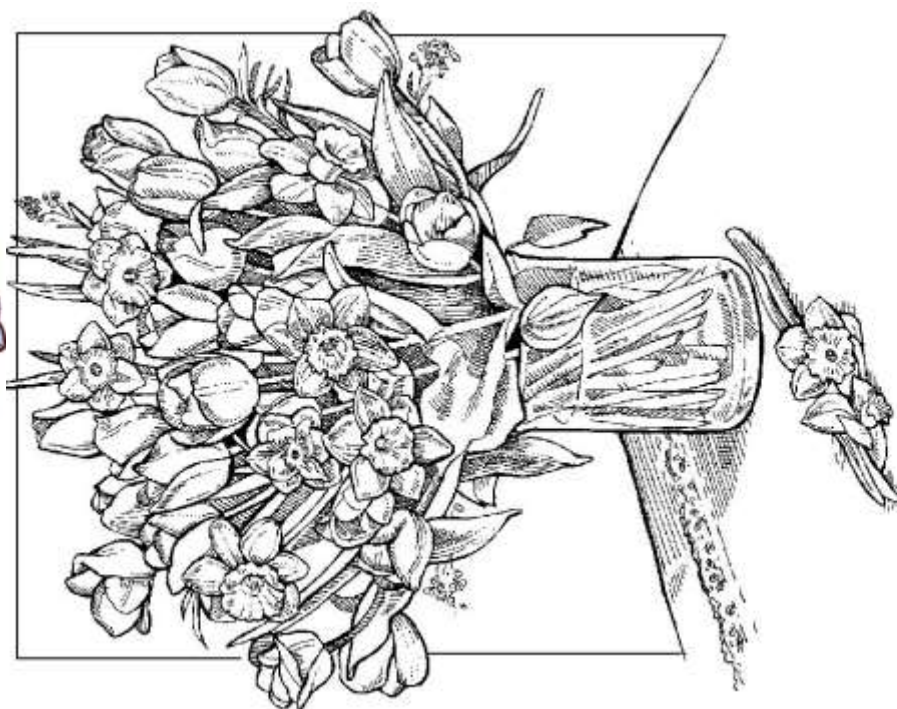
Church Staff

Rev. Mark Gabbard, Minister
Brenda Ransom, CRE
Kay Boyne, Music Director
Nicole Mckelvie, Financial/Administrative Assistant
Jason Fuller, Sexton

**Deadline for Next issue:
15th of each month**



Happy Mother's Day



*I have been reminded of your sincere faith,
which first lived in your grandmother...
and in your mother...and...now lives in you also.*

2 Timothy 1:5