



The Portage Presbyterian



A Newsletter for The Portage Presbyterian Family

September 2017

EDUCATION MINISTRIES BEGIN SOON!!!

PPC's Education Ministries will start up in September.

Our "Sunday Morning" young person's class will start @ 9:30 a.m. on September 10.

The "Wednesday Nite" class for young people will meet @ 5:30 p.m. on September 13. This class then continues as we gather for an interactive worship experience we call "Wed Nite Worship" @ 6:05 p.m. Everyone is invited to share in this worship time.

You will be receiving more information soon!

Please be sure to invite friends to come and share in this great experience.

A.C.T.S. - WED, SEPT 13

A.C.T.S. - "After Confirmation Talks (and) Service" is a group of post-confirmation class young people who come together for discussion, service, mission and fun!

Any young person who has gone through the Confirmation program here @ PPC - and any young person who is 9th grader through 12th grader is invited and encouraged to come and be a part of this group.

We will have our first meeting of the Fall on Wednesday night - September 13 - beginning @ 6:35 in the meeting room of Westminster Center.

We will be talking about future meeting times and what we would like this group to be and do.

If you cannot make this meeting, please let Pastor Dave know.

Questions? Contact Pastor Dave.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

COATS OF MANY COLORS COAT DRIVE

The Salvation Army Coat Drive will take place October 1-22 with distribution October 27& 28. Bring in your old winter coats, hats, mittens and children's boots in October.



"NEW" CONFIRMATION CLASS IN FALL?

If you (or a friend, neighbor) are interested in being a part of the Fall 2017 Confirmation experience here @ PPC - TAKE NOTE!

We are planning to offer a "new" Confirmation Class experience this Fall - but will need to know if we have young people who are interested in participating.

We will have our first meeting time on Wednesday, September 20 @ 6:35 p.m. (after the "Wed Nite Worship").

This class would be for young people who are 8th grade or older!

Please contact the Church Office if you (or someone you know) would like to take part.

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Dave.

"WED NITE" WORSHIP - SEPTEMBER 13

We will again offer our "Wed Nite Worship" experience beginning September 13 @ 6:05 p.m.

This is an "interactive" worship experience for God's children "of all ages."

All are welcome!

Invite your friends and neighbors!

Nominating Committee

NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS

The nominating committee is beginning the process of election of Elders and Deacons for the new year. If you have suggestions or ideas please contact Elders Nancy Schaper or Rhys Brenner.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 3, 2017

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:05 a.m. - *Traditional Worship*



Sunday, September 10, 2017

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:05 a.m. - *Traditional Worship*

Wednesday, September 13

6:05 p.m. - *"Wed Nite @ PPC" Worship*

Sunday, September 17, 2017

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:05 a.m. - *"Informal" Worship*

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Wed Nite Worship @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 24, 2017

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:05 a.m. - *Traditional Worship*

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

Wed Nite Worship @ 7:00 p.m.



MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of *Jane Gilbertson*, from
Joyce Scherbert
R. Michael and Carolyn Bennett
Caroline Rittmann

In Memory of *Robert Moore*, from
Nancy Schaper
Richard and Rosemary Minnema
Jill Porzel
Nancy Gunderson
Lynn and Nancy Van Epps
Family Members and Friends

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UPCOMING COMMUNION SCHEDULE

You are encouraged to take time before each Communion to reflect on the meaning of the Lord's Supper for you, for PPC and for the world.

The "Directory for Worship" notes that *"in preparing to receive Christ in this Sacrament, the believer is to confess sin and brokenness, to seek reconciliation with God and neighbor, and to trust in Jesus Christ for cleansing and renewal."*

As Presbyterians, we believe that coming to the Lord's Table is not a right, but a privilege given to those who come in faith, repentance and love - the gifts of God for the people of God.

Sunday, October 1, 2017

World Communion Sunday


@ 10:05 a.m.

"GLUTEN-FREE" BREAD- COMMUNION

In an effort to make sure that all have access to the Lord's Table, the Board of Deacons decided that all of our communion breads served will be "gluten-free."

September

2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
Church Office Hours Monday – 10:00am – 12:00pm Tuesday – Office Closed Wednesday – 8:00am – 1:00pm Thursday – Office Closed Friday – 8:00am – 1:00pm							
3 13 th Sunday After Pentecost 10:05am Traditional Worship	4 Labor Day Office Closed	5	6 6:30pm Chancel Choir	7	8 October Newsletter Articles Due in Office	9 9:00am Women's Association at Dino's	
10 14 th Sunday After Pentecost 9:30am Sunday Class 10:05am Traditional Worship Produce/Bake Sale Day	11 3:30pm ACA, WC 7:00pm Guitar Lessons Party Hall	12 10:00am Region 5 Prayer Group, WC	13 5:00pm Light Snack 5:30pm Wednesday Class 6:05pm Worship 6:30pm Chancel Choir 6:35pm ACTS 7:30pm Worship Jam	14 "GUITAR LESSONS" CONTINUE Those who are interested in learning the basics of playing the guitar are encouraged to join us on <i>Monday, September 11 @ 7:00 p.m.</i> in Party Hall.		16	
17 15 th Sunday After Pentecost 9:30am Sunday Class 10:05am Informal Worship	18 10:00am Worship Service at Tiwoli 6:00pm Bell Choir, Parry Hall 7:00pm Guitar Lessons, Parry Hall	19 11:00am "Late For Breakfast" at Dino's	20 5:00pm Light Snack 5:30pm Wednesday Class 6:05pm Worship 6:30pm Chancel Choir 6:35pm Confirmation 7:30pm Worship Jam	21	22	23	
24 16 th Sunday After Pentecost 9:30am Sunday Class 10:05am Traditional Worship	25 5:00-6:30pm Sharing Supper at Bartels Middle School	26 5:00pm Memorial Mission Stewardship, WC	27 5:00pm Light Snack 5:30pm Wednesday Class 6:05pm Worship 6:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm Worship Jam	28	29 FOOD PANTRY Remember the food pantry. The shelves are pretty empty after a busy summer. Our basket is always out in Parry Hall.	30	

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Once again this year we are doing a school supply drive. There is a container in Parry Hall for the supplies. Some of the items needed are **No. 2 pencils, Children's blunt scissors, Dry Erase Markers, Spiral notebooks, Plain colored folders, loose leaf paper, Crayola crayons, Elmer's glue sticks, big erasers, colored markers etc.** We will conclude this drive on September 10.

PRODUCE DAYS

There will be a Produce table every Sunday in September: 3, 10, 17 and 24. Bring your produce, flowers, jellies, etc and select the summer's bounty.



September Birthdays

Susan Goodman

PEACEMAKING OFFERING

The Peacemaking theme this year is **"Proclaim Christ's Peace."** What you've known as the Peacemaking Offering has been transformed into the **"Peace & Global Witness Offering."** Be with us on October 1 as we celebrate World Communion Sunday and receive the Peace & Global Witness Offering. On this day we join with Christians around the world to celebrate the unity that we find at the Table of the Lord. And we receive the Peace & Global Witness Offering to support the efforts of our congregation, our synod and presbytery, and our denomination to spread the peace of Christ in places near and far.

The money collected from the special offering will be divided with 25% staying locally while 75% goes to Presbyterian Church USA.

CARD PARTY

Mark your calendars for October 6 when a Euchre card party will be held in the church dining room. A free will offering of \$5.00 includes cards and a meal. A donation to the food pantry would be appreciated. The meal will be served at 6:00 PM and cards start at 6:30 PM. All proceeds from this Euchre party will be directed towards our Yakutat pledge. Come and enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship

IF YOU GO TO PORTAGE "PIZZA RANCH"

...*"bring in your Sunday church bulletin to the Pizza Ranch, Monday-Wednesday, turn it into the register when you purchase your buffet - we'll give \$1.00 to your church."*

This is will be an "ongoing" fund-raising opportunity. So, if you like to go to Pizza Ranch, be sure to take a bulletin along.

CONCERT AT THE PORTAGE

The Events Committee served desserts at the Concert at the Portage at the VFW Hall on August 9. "Universal Sounds" was the group performing and there was a good crowd. We went through 30 pies and made a profit of \$331.00 towards the general operating budget of the church. Thank you to everyone who donated pies, served the pies and ate the pies. They were all wonderful.



Much has been made in recent times of how we communicate. From my own experience, and perhaps from yours as well, we know that what is "said or written" may not always be what is "heard or read."

So, with that in mind, I offer these "bulletin bloopers" that have actually appeared in a variety of congregations over the years. Enjoy!

** Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa will be speaking tonight at Calvary Memorial Church in Racine. Come tonight and hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.*

** The cost for attending the Fasting and Prayer conference includes meals.*

** "Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands."*

** Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.*

** Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.*

** A new loudspeaker system has been installed in the church. It was given by one of our members in honor of the pastor.*

** The Pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday morning.*

** Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 to 8:30 p.m. Please use the back door.*

** The Rev. Merriwether spoke briefly, much to the delight of the audience.*

** During the absence of our pastor, we enjoyed the rare privilege of hearing a good sermon when J.F. Stubbs supplied our pulpit.*

** Stewardship Message: "Jesus Paid It All."*

** The concert held in Fellowship Hall was a great success. Special thanks are due to the minister's daughter, who labored the whole evening at the piano, which as usual fell upon her.*

** On a church bulletin during the minister's illness: GOD IS GOOD - Dr. Hargreaves is better.*

** Don't let worry kill you - let the church help.*

** This afternoon there will be a meeting in the South and North ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.*

** This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.*

** Ushers will eat latecomers.*

As one can see, effective and intentional communication is not as easy or as simple as one might be led to believe.

I think about this subject, especially in today's world in which misunderstandings and miscommunications abound.

These humorous lines have also made me wonder how we can effectively tell people about God's love for us in and through Jesus Christ. It is a realization for me that "sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ" really has to be communicated in a variety of ways which are consistent with each other. As my grandmother used to say "it's not only what you say, but what you do too."

There is no doubt that being God's messengers can be challenging. Yet, we are called as God's people and God's church to share this message of hope and peace and life.

I thank God always for the "effective communicating" that PPC has done and continues to do.

The love and grace and peace of God is truly evident in all that you do - and say.

May God continue to bless and lead us as we seek to "tell" others this "Good News."



EVENTS COMMITTEE NEWS

So far this year we hosted one brat sale and the pie dessert at The Concert at the Portage. Thanks to all who donated pies and supported our brat and hot dog sale. We made a profit of \$636.08 between the two sales.

We've also had three Euchre Card Parties and a luncheon to benefit Yakutat that made \$785.68 which leaves us with \$214.32 left to complete our \$1000.00 pledge.

With the events listed above we were able to donate \$636.08 for the general operating budget of our church plus \$785.68 for our Yakutat pledge for a total of **\$1,421.76**.

We also have a brat and hot dog sale at Festival Foods Brat Hut on **September 2** to benefit the general operating budget of our church and a card party on **October 6** to hopefully complete our Yakutat pledge.



"SHARING SUPPER" - SEPTEMBER, 2017

The "Sharing Supper" will be shared on Monday, September 25.

Serving begins at 5:00 p.m. **at the Bartels Middle School cafeteria.**

"Sharing Supper" is a meal, sponsored by community groups and organizations. It is intended to bring people in the community together, around tables, where we get to know one another and have an opportunity to learn more about what is happening in the community around us.

A unique part of this experience is the "Kid's Corner" designed especially for the younger folks. Here young people will have a chance to hear stories and do craft projects related to what is happening around us.

All are welcome! Bring your friends and neighbors.

Come and share in this unique and wonderful experience - on **September 25 @ 5:00 p.m.**

TRY "SCRIP" - YOU'LL LOVE IT!

Scrip Fundraising is here @ PPC!

And it is EASY!!!

Scrip fundraising is a no selling program that enable members and friends of the Portage Presbyterian Church to participate in.

Scrip gift cards are the same gift cards you can purchase from the retailer. With over 300 of the Country's biggest brands, including grocery, department stores, gas stations, restaurants and home improvement and by planning ahead on everyday purchases the Women's Association will profit!

Examples of gift cards in our area are: *Festival Foods, Piggy Wiggly, Walmart, Walgreens, Subway, Cracker Barrel, BP Gas Stations, Kwik Trip, Mobil, Applebee's, Bath & Body Works, Amazon.....and so many more.*

Questions???? Contact Elaine Crammond at 742-3899 or 608 215-8899.

This is an ongoing fundraising program that will be available year round.

Consider our new approach and help us reach our mission goals!

Order sheets are available in Parry Hall!

YOU WANT MORE? - "PPC" NOW ONLINE!

PPC is "getting the word out" in new ways!

If you have not checked out our website (www.portagepresbyterian.com) - please do so.

On the Website you will find a great deal of information about what is happening in the life and ministry of the PPC community.

We have also added "*online*" newsletter and "*online*" bulletin tabs.

In addition, we have also introduced a "Youtube" channel titled, of all things, "*Portage Presbyterian Church*." There you will find videos of worship services and other activities.

Be sure to share this information with all who may not be able to be in worship each Sunday as well as with those who may like to learn more about this church community.

"CHANCEL CHOIR" REHEARSALS BEGIN

The Chancel Choir will have its' first rehearsal for the Fall on Wednesday, September 6 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall / Dining Room.

Anyone who enjoys singing and participating in the music ministry during worship is encouraged to come and be a part of this wonderful group.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Judy Taylor.



"HANDBELLS" ARE RINGING AGAIN


PPC's Handbell Choir will begin rehearsals again on Monday, September 18 @ 6:00 p.m. in Parry Hall.

Ringers of any age or skill level are welcome to come and be a part of this unique music ministry.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Kathy Hankins.

TERRI LYNN NUT & CANDY SALE

During the month of October we will be doing a Terri Lynn Nut & Candy **pre-order** sale. You will **pre-order and pay** for what you would like. More information will be in the October newsletter.




PUZZLE

APPLE OF HIS EYE

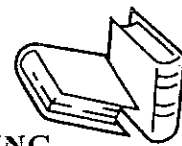
Start each school day by remembering God's loving care for you.

Directions: Starting at the K by the stem and going clockwise, circle each word. Then place the words in the blanks to complete Psalm 17:8.



PSALM 17:8, NIV

Answer: "Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings." Psalm 17:8, NIV



"NEW" BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING

The Rev. Dr. Carol Hermann will be offering a "Bible Study" opportunity *on the 1st and 3rd Sundays* - beginning @ 8:45 in the morning (before Sunday morning worship).

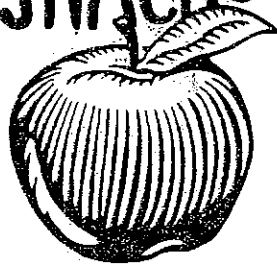
Carol will be organizing the Bible Study materials which will be shared.

The Bible Study will be starting on September 17th @ 8:45 a.m.

If you would like more information, you can contact the Church Office or Rev. Hermann.

Thank you Carol - for sharing your time and gifts with us here @ PPC.

APPLE SNACKS



These healthy chips make a yummy back-to-school snack.

What you need:

- 4 apples, cored and cut into 1/8" rings
- Large bowl
- Spoon
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- Baking sheets (sprayed)

What you do:

1. Place apple slices in the bowl. Add cinnamon and sugar. Stir so apples are coated evenly with the mixture.
2. Place apple slices on the sprayed baking sheets in a single layer.
3. Bake at 200 degrees for two to three hours, until chips are dry but still slightly soft.

MINISTRY AND WORSHIP @ TIVOLI

PPC is blessed to provide the worship service at Tivoli on the 3rd Monday of each month @ 10:00 a.m.

We have found that our worship service is one of the better attended worship times – and that is great news!

We are looking for additional people to come and help get people to and from the chapel.

You will have the opportunity to share in a special worship experience as well as being able to interact with some very nice people. Chaplain Monica remarks how much the residents enjoy having people come and share worship with them.

If you could help with this ministry once in a while, contact Pastor Dave.

NOTE! We will share worship on the **THIRD Monday September 17th** @10:00 a.m.

"A THANK YOU" - FROM CAMBRIA

Our dear, dear Brothers and Sisters at Portage Presbyterian,

Words cannot express the love and support felt by this whole community for your heartfelt and immediate response to the explosion in Cambria!

Your spaghetti dinner set the "bar" for the fundraisers that followed.

Thank you so much!

The generosity of individual givers was amazing!

Keep us in your love and prayers as we continue to help this community grow towards wholeness.

Your gifts provided for gas cards, food vouchers, food for the Community Pantry, prescriptions, utilities, rent and countless other acts of grace.

God richly bless you!

Pastor Kristin and Cambria First.

Mark your calendar for the Harvest Dinner on November 11. More information to come in the October newsletter.

*Wednesday Worship Service
6:05 p.m. Informal, Interactive Worship
Everyone Invited!
Church Is Handicapped Accessible
Child Care Available
Third Sunday of Each Month is Informal Service
10:05 a.m. Traditional Worship
Sunday Worship Service*

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