



# The Portage Presbyterian



A Newsletter for The Portage Presbyterian Family

July/August 2018

## POUNDS FOR THE PANTRY

During the month of May our Pounds for the Pantry drive collected **770 pounds** of food for the Portage Food Pantry. Once again we surpassed our goal of 500 pounds. Continue to remember the food pantry in your prayers and remember our basket is always out for donations.

## "SUMMER WORSHIP SERIES" @ PPC

Imagine this - the God who created the heavens and the earth reaches out to us in common, everyday ways to help us know and experience the power and presence of God and the Kingdom.

This summer our worship times will explore how we experience God in the world around us. Like Sherlock Holmes, we will examine and consider the "clues" that we have to learn more about God who comes to us in and through Jesus Christ.

"*Just Following The Clues!*" will explore the ways in which God and God's Kingdom is revealed to us in and through the Scriptures - in such "mysterious" ways as people, animals and plants.

What might we discover about God?

Come for summer worship and check out the "clues" and see where they lead us (or "to whom" they lead us)!

## KWIK TRIP "CAR WASH" CARDS -

PPC's "mission trippers" continue to sell Kwik Trip "Ultimate" Car Wash cards.

Each card has FIVE car washes on it.

If you were to purchase these at the store, they would cost \$50.00 (\$10.00/wash)

But, the Mission Trippers are selling these cards for the price of \$36.00 / card.

If you are interested in purchasing cards, contact the Church Office.

Thanks!

## DINNER AT THE FAIR

As was mentioned in last month's newsletter we are providing the Wednesday night (July 25<sup>th</sup>) dinner at the Columbia County Fair. We will be serving from the grandstand. We will be selling chicken, pork or beef brisket sandwiches along with your choice of cole slaw, potato salad or potato chips plus cookies. We are hoping to serve at least 200 meals so we need help from everyone to make this a success. There are sign up sheets for help and cookies on the kiosk in Parry Hall. We need help from 2:30-5:00 or 5:00-8:00 PM. We will need 34 dozen cookies (**not frosted**) at church by Monday morning.

If you are not able to sign up and are able to help and/or donate cookies please contact Nancy Schaper (608-742-7242) or Donna Mohr (608-742-3599). All proceeds benefit the general operating budget of our church.

## 2018 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL INFO

Included with this month's newsletter is the registration form for this year's "Shipwrecked" VBS.

VBS will be held Monday, July 30-Friday, August 3. Each day the VBS will run from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at the Portage United Methodist Church.

We are also looking for "volunteer leaders" to participate - anything from leading a group to helping with snacks or being there for registration. Contact the church office if you are interested in this.

The cost for the week-long VBS is \$15.00 / child or \$40.00 max/ family.

VBS is available for young people 4 years old through 6th grade. Those 7th grade or older are encouraged to consider a volunteer role.

If you have questions about this summer's VBS, please contact the church office.

## UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 1, 2018

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost  
10:05 a.m. – *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, July 8, 2018

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  
10:05 a.m. – *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, July 15, 2018

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
10:05 a.m. – *"Informal" Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, July 22, 2018

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost  
10:05 a.m. – *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*  
*Celebration of the Lord's Supper*

Sunday, July 29, 2018

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost  
11:00 a.m. – *Worship*  
*@ Columbia County Fairgrounds*

Sunday, August 5, 2018

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  
10:05 a.m. – *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, August 12, 2018

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
10:05 a.m. – *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, August 19, 2018

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
10:05 a.m. – *"Informal" Worship in Sanctuary*

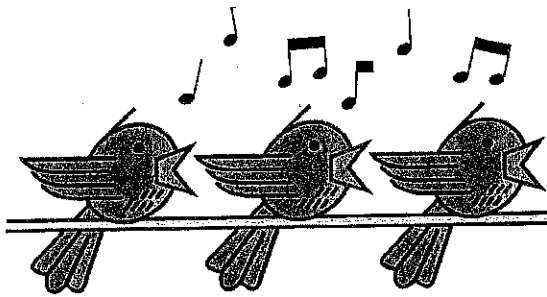
Sunday, August 26, 2018

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
10:05 a.m. – *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### **HARVEST DINNER**

### **NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> !!!**



### THE PORTAGE PRESBYTERIAN

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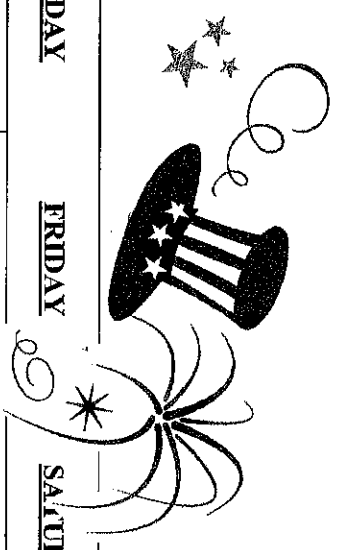
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Editor – Kathryn Curtis

Pastor – The Rev. David J. Hankins

**Church Office Hours**  
 Monday – 10:00am – 12:00pm  
 Tuesday – Office Closed  
 Wednesday – 8:00am – 1:00pm  
 Thursday – Office Closed  
 Friday – 8:00am – 1:00pm

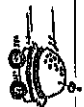



# July 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10:05am Traditional Worship	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Office Closed	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10:05am Traditional Worship	<b>9</b> 4:30pm Sign Group, WC	<b>10</b> 10:00am Region 5 Prayer Group, WC	<b>11</b> 6:30pm Worship Jam	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10:05am Informal Worship 1:00pm Mallard Baseball Game, Madison	<b>16</b> 10:00am Worship Service at Tivoli 5:00pm Events Committee, WC	<b>17</b> 11:00am "Late For Breakfast" at Dino's 6:00pm Mission Stewardship, WC	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 9:00am – 4:00pm Bi-Vocational Ministry, Fellowship Hall 4:00 – 8:00pm VBS Fundraiser at Pizza Ranch	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost PPC 168 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lord's Supper 10:05am Traditional Worship	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 4:00-8:00pm PPC serving Columbia County Fair Meal located at the grandstand, Fairgrounds	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Discipleship Committee 11:00am Worship Service at Columbia County Fairgrounds	<b>30</b>  8:30-11:30am Vacation Bible School at First United Methodist Church 5:00-6:30pm Sharing Supper at Bartels Middle School Meals On Wheels	<b>31</b>  8:30-11:30am Vacation Bible School at First United Methodist Church Meals On Wheels	<b>-3-</b>	<p><b>"GUITAR LESSONS" - SUMMER UPDATE</b>            "Guitar Lessons" will continue over the summer - but on a somewhat "irregular" schedule.            Because of everyone's summer activities, we are planning on meeting once a month. Pastor Dave will be contacting those who have been participating to let them know of upcoming gathering times.</p>		

# August

## 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5 <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i> 10:05am Traditional Worship	6 4:30pm ACA, WC	7	1  8:30-11:30am Vacation Bible School at First United Methodist Church Meals On Wheels	2  8:30-11:30am Vacation Bible School at First United Methodist Church Meals On Wheels	3  8:30-11:30am Vacation Bible School at First United Methodist Church Meals On Wheels	4
12 <i>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i> 10:05am Traditional Worship	13	14 10:00am Region 5 Prayer Group, WC	8 6:30pm Worship Jam, Sanctuary	9 9:00am - 4:00pm Bi-vocational Ministry, Fellowship Hall	10 September/Newsletter Articles Due in Office	11 9:00am-4:00pm John Knox Presbytery, Video Meeting, Dining Room
19 <i>13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost</i> 10:05am Informal Worship	20 10:00am Worship Service at Tivoli	21 11:00am "Late For Breakfast" at Dino's	22  6:00pm Events Committee serving pies at Concert at the Portage (VFW)	16 6:00pm Potluck and Joint Session and Deacons Meeting, Fellowship Hall	17	18
26 <i>14<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost</i> 10:05am Traditional Worship	27 3:30-8:00pm Alphabet Express, Fellowship Hall 5:00-6:30pm Sharing Supper at Bartels Middle School	28	29 -4-	30	31	25

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**  
**HARVEST DINNER**  
**NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> !!!**

## PASTOR'S PAGE

*We are "on a mission from God."*

Eleven people from Region 5 of John Knox Presbytery are heading for the "upper part of lower Michigan" as a part of this year's mission trip experience.

What are we doing? We will be working as groundskeepers, maintenance and upkeep for Camp Westminster on Higgins Lake.

And that's about it! That's all I can tell you. Because we have never been there before.

There is something both exciting and uncomfortable in this year's trip for me.

The exciting part is that each and every one of the mission trips that I have made since 2000's trip to Chattanooga have been inspiring, life-changing experiences. And I have no doubts that this year's trip will be as well. I enjoy having the opportunity to be the "hands and feet of Jesus" as we say.

However, the uncomfortable part of this is that we are going somewhere we've never been before. There is no doubt it is easier for me to go where I've previously visited and know the streets, the people, the work, the food and the softness rating of the bed upon which I will sleep.

This year will be different. We are still "on a mission from God." But we will be "doing mission" in a place that is very unfamiliar.

Yet, that's okay. Because God does not call us only to those places and people with whom we are comfortable or with whom we already have a good relationship. If I stop to think about it, each of those sites that we have re-visited have, at some time, been a place we visited for the first time.

As has always been the case, from the first trip in 2000 and on, each and every mission trip has been a time and a place where I have seen and experienced God at work!

Even though the places and faces change, the One constant through it all - is that when we trust that God is at work, that God is leading, we will always be right where we need to be - right where God needs us to be!

Yes, we are "on a mission from God!"

What a great trip it will be!



Imagine what it might be like to be at PPC for the very first time!

That is the purpose for having "greeters" on Sunday mornings for worship.

*This is an important ministry opportunity as we seek to reach out and welcome visitors into this church community.*

We believe PPC is a wonderful, warm and caring community of God's people. And we want others to experience that which we have found here.

And we are seeking "volunteers" to sign-up to help collect the offering during worship.

But, in order to make this work we need your help!!!

*There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in Parry Hall.*

Please indicate your preference to help provide this important ministry here @ PPC.

Thank you!

### "SHARING SUPPER" – JULY/AUGUST, 2018

The "Sharing Supper" will be shared on Mondays, July 30 & August 27!!!

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 **July 30 & August 27 @ 5:00 p.m.**

## COME AND WORSHIP @ COUNTY FAIR

PPC has been invited to lead the ecumenical worship service at the Columbia County Fairgrounds on Sunday, July 29.

The service will begin @ 11:00 a.m.  
*Please note the change in time for this Sunday!*

We will be near the "animal barns" for the service. Not sure where "that" is - don't worry! *We will have people there to "direct" everyone to the right place.*

You are asked, if possible, to bring your own chair or blanket.

As people come for the worship service, we will have "fellowship treats" available. If you would like to donate toward this "fellowship time" check out the sign-up sheet in Parry Hall.

A couple of notes about "transportation" ...

- ∞ If you have room for others to travel down to the Fairgrounds with you, please let us know. We would encourage "carpools" for the day. Let us know if you would have room and we will try to let others know.
- ∞ For those who may be concerned about parking a distance away and having to walk ... we have arranged for "transport" from parking lots to the worship area (and back after worship).

What an exciting opportunity we have been given to share the "good news" to all of God's creatures - and to be ambassadors of the grace and love of God for all.

And what a wonderful chance we have to let others know what we know - that being a part of the PPC community is great - because @ PPC is "a place for everybody!"

See you there!

Share God's  
Word



## CANAL DAYS "CUPCAKE SALE" SUCCESS!

I want to thank everyone who helped by making our first cupcake sale so successful! It started with a donation of supplies and everyone from the church made a huge impact in this way. Then it was off to baking on Friday the day before the sale. With lots of help from *Nancy Schaper*, about 500 cupcakes were baked. After they were baked we had *Cindy Moyer, Pastor Dave, Kathy Hankins, and Gabe Bandekow* who did an awesome job making boxes, packing, and labeling.

Then came Saturday and it was time to set up for the sale. *Andrew Bandekow* and my sister pitched in and got the tent, table and sign up and ready. *Sarah Hankins* and *Gabe* with the help of his aunt and grandparents went to pass out goodies in the parade advertising for our sale. *Pastor Dave, Kathy, Sarah, Jarrett and Gabe* helped with the sale.

A fun time was had by everyone. We were able to sell over 100 boxes of cupcakes. We had only 7 boxes left on Sunday morning that we sold during fellowship hour.

We made a total of \$595 for the  
Mission Trip

I can't thank you all enough for your support during this first Canal Day Cupcake Sale. What a fantastic event it was and we can't wait for next year!

*Tara Bandekow*



### CONCERT AT THE PORTAGE

On Wednesday evening, August 22, the Event's Committee will be providing dessert at the Concert at the Portage that is being held at the VFW. The group performing that evening is Universal Sounds. It always a fun evening so come join us at the park. There is a concert each Wednesday evening during the summer. This will be a fundraiser for the church and we are asking for donations of home-made pie. This group should have a large attendance when it plays so we will need lots of pies. There is a sign-up sheet in Parry Hall or you can contact Nancy Schaper (742-7242) to get your name on the list. If possible please use a disposable pie pan. The pies need to be brought to the church by noon on August 22. Any questions contact Nancy Schaper.

### 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!

An "order sheet" is included with the newsletter and also are available in Parry Hall!



### MINISTRY AND WORSHIP @ TIVOLI

PPC is blessed to provide a monthly worship service at Tivoli.

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 share worship on the THIRD Monday in July - July 16th ... & on the THIRD Monday in August - August 20 ... @10:00 a.m.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### HARVESTCALENDAR

### NOVEMBER10th !!!

# PUZZLE

## GOD'S amazzzing BEES

God created bees to pollinate flowers and make honey. Psalm 119:103 says God gives us something that's even sweeter than honey.

Directions: Find the word that fits each clue. Then write the answers in the correct numbered honeycomb shape to complete Psalm 119:103, NIV.

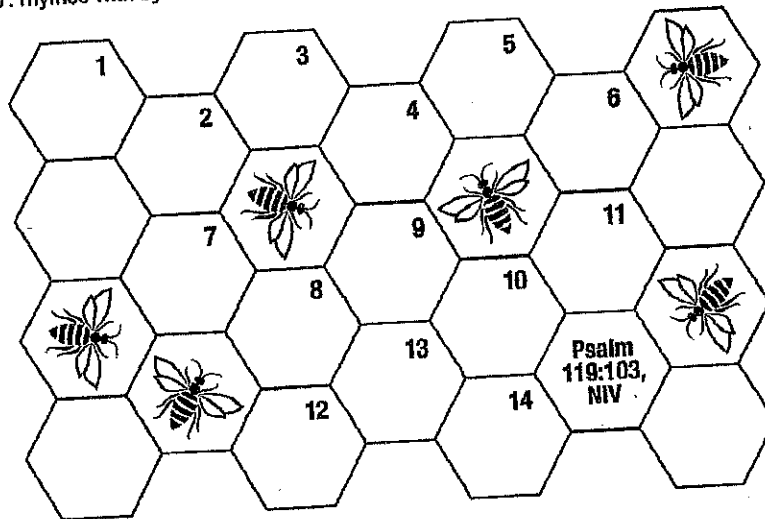
### CLUES

1. rhymes with cow
2. opposite of sour
3. pronounced "R"
4. rhymes with four
5. Letters create \_\_\_\_\_.
6. not too or two
7. rhymes with by
8. the tongue's job
9. more sweet
10. rhymes with pan
11. golden liquid
12. Pleased \_\_ meet you.
13. rhymes with fly
14. body part



### WORD BANK

than your to are  
sweet sweeter How  
my honey mouth  
words to taste, my



Answer: How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Psalm 119:103, NIV



**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.

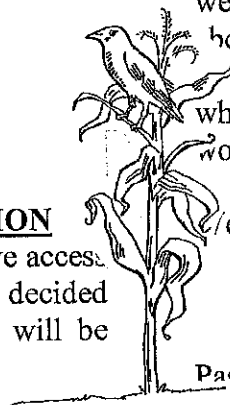
The "Directory for Worship" notes that "in preparing to receive Christ in this Sacrament, the believer is to confess sin and brokenness, to seek reconciliation with God and neighbor, and to trust in Jesus Christ for cleansing and renewal."

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, July 22, 2018  
@ 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."



**BRAT and HOT DOG SALE**

The Events Committee will be hosting a brat sale at **Festival Foods Brat Hut on September 3.** We will be ready to sell by 10:00 AM so come for lunch or a late breakfast. All profits will be donated to the general operating budget of the church. Any questions contact Nancy Schaper.

**WORSHIP "JAM" @ PPC - SUMMER NOTES**

Here's our Worship "Jam" schedule for the Summer.

All instrumentalists and vocalists are welcome and encouraged to come and "jam" for about an hour or so.

We work on music which we enjoy and which we usually share during our "Informal" worship services on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

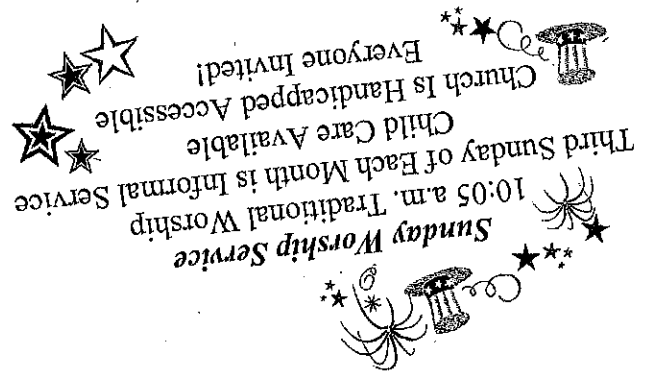
During the Summer we will "jam" on the Wednesday "before" our Informal Sunday:

\* Wed, July 11 @ 6:30 p.m.

\* Wed, August 15 @ 6:30 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact

Pastor Dave. Thanks!



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