

# THE PRESBYTERIAN BRIDGE

*Celebrating our uniqueness*

*Coming together in Christ*



INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF MENOMINEE

PIONEER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

---

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 8

## *Music News*

### First Presbyterian Church of Menominee

Thank you to those who filled out the sheet of requested hymns in the Gathering Room. Pastor Jon has placed the following requested hymns in the song schedule for the next three months:

- Sept 9 - Praise Him! Praise Him!
- Sept 16 - O God, Our Help in Ages Past
- Sept 16 - Majesty
- Sept 16 - Eternal Father, Strong to Save
- Sept 23 - Be Thou My Vision
- Oct 7 - God of Our Fathers
- Oct 14 - Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
- Oct 21 - Be Still, My Soul
- Oct 28 - All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

### Pioneer Presbyterian Church

The new Glory to God hymnal is a wonderful hymnal. Therefore, Worship and Music wants to introduce some of these inspiring newer songs within our worship repertoire. Please let us know what you think of these songs and also any favorite songs that you would like us to sing during worship.

## *Peacemaking Offering*

The next special mission offering is the Peacemaking Offering, Worldwide Communion Sunday, October 7th. 50% will go to our own local peacemaking, and 50% will go to the Presbyterian peacemaking ministries of the General Assembly Mission Council. An envelope is included in this newsletter. Thank you.

## *Pastor's Bible Study*

Pastor's Bible Study resumes Wednesday, September 12. We will be returning back to the New Testament to study Paul's Prison Letters (Colossians, Ephesians, Philemon, Philippians, 1 Timothy, Titus, & 2 Timothy). We meet each Wednesday, 10am at Pioneer and 6:30pm at First Presbyterian. Newcomers are always welcome.



**DEADLINE** for the October 2018 Issue of The Presbyterian Bridge is **SEPTEMBER 20th**. To ensure that your article will be included, **please submit your typed article and materials to your church office on time!**

# HOW WE GRIEVE

As I am writing this, the news has reported the passing of Senator John McCain. I didn't expect his passing to come so quickly. As many of you, I was aware of his battle with brain cancer, and that it was serious and terminal. Throughout my adult life, Sen. McCain has been a part of the political backdrop. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the McCain family.

This passing has come on the heels of my own grieving process as I honor the two anniversaries of my parents' passing. My mom passed two years ago in August and my dad passed last September 12th. Grief is an interesting journey as many of you have experienced. It involves a combination of emotions: happiness, sadness, longing, anger, and hope. There is not a single way to grieve and each of us grieves in our own way.

I remember back in my pastoral care classes in seminary learning about the grieving process. The process involves five stages: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. When I first learned of these, I experienced them as a student, an objective observer from the outside. Now that I have experienced grief for myself, I now understand these stages in a better and more beautiful way. Prior to my parents' passing, I had never lost someone as close as a parent. Even though I was a pastor, I pushed the idea of death to background. It was theoretical. With my parents' passing, it became personal.

In the grieving process, God has placed within us the means to help us move through death to hope. From our creation, this process has existed even though it has been in the last fifty years that psychologists have identified the specific stages. We find this process wherever humans have grieved. We also find it within the Bible.

Even though we often think of the grieving process in regard to the death of a loved one, the grieving process exists wherever there is transition. It exists when we lose a job, when a child moves away to college, or in a divorce. It even happens within the church. Wherever there is loss and change, there is grief.

I often see parishioners working through grief as things change. I hear it in the memories: "Remember when we used to have a full Sunday School program." "Remember so-and-so and how they used to sing in the choir." There are so many wonderful memories within a church and these are blessings as we work through our grief.

The problem arises though when we get stuck in our grief and cannot move on. God doesn't want us to get stuck in our grief. God calls us as Christians to gaze upon the cross and accept our own death, but to also move towards the empty tomb to the hope of resurrection and new life. Death and resurrection go hand in hand. You can't have one without the other.

In the coming months, as a part of my doctoral project, I will be exploring with First Presbyterian the process of organizational grief. How are we as a church moving through the grief process in the midst of our own transitions? While my project is focused on First Presbyterian because of logistical issues (it would be too difficult trying to run this project in both churches at the same time), I believe this will be a rewarding venture for both churches as we gain new insight into this God given process.

I will be beginning this process with a five-week sermon series in September as I explore with you the five stages of grief through the lens of Bible. We will take a different stage each week and explore what it has meant for the people of God and where it is taking us for the future. I look forward to this adventure with you and am hopeful of the learning we will find together.

In Christ,

Jon 



# September ~

## BIRTHDAYS

- 9 Wynn Erdman
- 10 Marguerite Braley
- 19 Susan Hitt
- 20 Donna Tabbert
- 22 Sue Ochs
- 24 Cindy Bailey
- 28 William Lenca

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 William & Vicki Lenca
- 6 Rev. Jon & Michelle Nelson
- 11 Marilynn & Joe Galineau
- 20 Herman & Pat Pottratz
- 25 Dennis & Jo Anne Nipple  
Tom & Julie Skrzypinski

## COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

- 2 Barb Kopish
- 9 Lloyd & Gayle Gomez
- 16 Open
- 23 Open
- 30 Open

## GREETERS

- 2 Ken & Joan Fifarek
- 9 Donna Tabbert
- 16 Sue & Al Ochs
- 23 Pat Pottratz
- 30 Wally & Susan Hitt

## GUEST MUSICIANS

- 2 Barbara Hay
- 9 Marilyn Schoen
- 16 Joan Campbell
- 23 John Wills
- 30 Mary Meyer

## *Many Thanks!*

*I wanted to say thank you for the beautiful card, flowers, lunch and video shown in May. I was truly touched and humbled by all your kind words. Each of you hold a special place in my heart.*

*In Christ,  
Jo Anne*

## *Piano Available*

Pioneer Presbyterian Church has a standard upright piano made by Everett that is currently located in the Galilean room that it no longer needs. If you can move it you can have it. If interested, please let the church secretary Darlene know.

## *Hearing Loop*

Our hearing loop system has now been completed! This will allow those with hearing aids or those who have difficulty hearing to hear the worship service without problem. Many thanks to Gene Davenport for researching the project and seeing it through to completion. Funds to finance the system came from our Memorial fund, which Aurie Fifarek so generously contributed to in memory of her husband. Thank you Aurie!

## *Paper Drive Update*

The mission committee would like to thank everyone who participated in our paper drive for the homeless shelter.

Many items were delivered to them along with a check for \$500. Thank you all!



### *Presbyterian Women*

The Presbyterian Women will meet on Thursday, September 6th at 10:00 in the church library. We will be planning our Fall Rummage Sale that will be held on Saturday, October 6th from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Fellowship room. Please remember that donations will be accepted daily during the church office hours – Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm.

### *Mission News*

We will continue to collect personal items for men, women, and teens. These items will be donated to The Abundant Life Mission (the homeless shelter). Please place your donations in the basket in the Gathering Room.

The loose coin offering will be collected every third Sunday in our offering plates. We will announce the designation at the end of November. Thank You.

### *Book Club*

The next meeting for the Book Club will be September 27 at 6:30 P.M. We meet at Harbors in the fourth-floor library. This month's selection is "Caroline: Little House, Revisited" by Sarah Miller. In this novel authorized by the Little House Heritage Trust, Sarah Miller vividly recreates the beauty, hardship, and joys of the frontier in a dazzling work of historical fiction, a captivating story that illuminates one courageous, resilient, and loving pioneer woman as never before.

We enjoy reading new books as well as classics and would love to have your suggestion for fun and interesting reading material. As always, we welcome new members and would love to have you join us to share your favorite books with us. If you need a ride please call Janet Johnson at 906-863-7496.

### *September Birthdays*

2	Pat Johnson
6	Derek Fehrenbach
10	Willa Stang
11	Elizabeth Zimmerman
13	Roger Zorn
17	Janet Johnson
21	Syd Wells
23	Andrea Fernstrum
26	Sam Hofer
27	Linda Baumann
27	Jane Casperson
30	Joan Helgerson





*Celebrating our uniqueness • Coming together in Christ*

Pastor Jon Nelson • 715-587-8731

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF MENOMINEE

923 5th Street  
Menominee, MI 49858  
906-863-3889  
office@fpcmenominee.org  
www.fpcmenominee.org

**Administrative Hours:**

Mon. - Thurs.  
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

**SESSION**

Clerk of Session • Donna Rife  
Building & Grounds • Steve Engeldinger  
Christian Education •  
Fellowship • Steve Engeldinger  
Finance •  
Mission • Patricia Johnson & Jane Stripling  
Personnel • Sam Hofer  
Worship • DeeAnne Polhmann  
Evangelism/Membership • Sam Hofer

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

Moderator • Karen Menard

Anita Draska	Sue Plautz
Karen Fehrenbach	Ann Schultz
MaryAnn Langill	Janet Smith
Linda Majkrzak	Carol Symyneshen
Karen Menard	Helen Thibodeau
Mary Nelson	

PIONEER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1947 Riverside Avenue  
Marinette, WI 54143  
715-735-3025  
office@pioneermarinette.org  
www.pioneermarinette.org

**Administrative Hours:**

Mon - Wed | 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Thurs | 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

**SESSION**

Clerk of Session • Karen Bickel  
Administration • Liz Murphy  
Building & Grounds • Joe Reines  
Christian Education • Ann Eggener  
Finance • Bill Lenca  
Memorial & Mission • Karen Bickel  
Outreach & Fellowship • Ellis Langjhar  
Personnel • Karen Buyarski  
Worship & Music • Rich Ulrich  
Nominating • Joe Reines

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

Co-Moderators • Marilyn Galineau | Pat Pottratz  
Secretary • Linda Baumler

Sarah Austad	Karen Hipwell
Linda Baumler	Barb Kopish
Marguerite Braley	Sue Ochs
Karen Curtis	Myrna Stanley
Mark Franzen	