

# THE PRESBYTERIAN BRIDGE

*Celebrating our uniqueness*

*Coming together in Christ*



INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF MENOMINEE

PIONEER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2019

## *Congregational Meetings Called*

On Sunday, January 27, 2019, Pioneer Presbyterian Church will hold their congregational meeting at 10:00 am, immediately following the worship service.

First Presbyterian Church of Menominee will hold their congregational meeting at 11:30 am, on Sunday, January 27, 2019, following their morning worship service.

If you have any questions, please contact your church office.

*Happy New Year*

May the Lord bless you  
and keep you.

Numbers 6:24



**DEADLINE** for the February 2019 Issue of The Presbyterian Bridge is **JANUARY 20th**. To ensure that your article will be included, **please submit your typed article and materials to your church office on time!**

## *First Presbyterian Church of Menominee "Pay Down the Mortgage" Opportunity*

An anonymous member has given a challenge pledge to match any mortgage pay-down funds collected by January 31st up to a total of \$20,000. Therefore, whatever you give in the month of January will have a double impact for our church.

If you made a yearly pledge towards the building, perhaps you are able to pay more up front in January so that we can maximize this opportunity; or perhaps you would like to give an extra amount.

Whatever you are able to provide, we thank you in advance for your generosity and faithfulness towards our congregation.



# WITH CHRIST, WE ARE NEVER ALONE

As we enter into the new year, it is often a time of reflection and new beginnings. In making new year resolutions, we examine our past and decide that there are areas of our life we would like to change. Perhaps we want to lose a few pounds, exercise more, or spend more time with family and friends. Whatever our resolution, the new year offers us another chance to redefine ourselves.

In his letter to the Philippians, Paul encourages us along this path of personal and spiritual redefinition. He wrote, *“forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.”*

Paul reminds us that as Christians our identity is not found in our old selves but in our pursuit to be more like Jesus Christ. This is our central goal and resolve as Christians to grow more into the image of Jesus.

John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, described this process of being more like Christ as sanctification. He argued that this process begins once we accept Christ, turn from our past, and choose to walk towards Christ by displaying Christ’s love and charity. He also believed that sanctification could be completely accomplished during a lifetime, although it was rare. As we look at ourselves, most of us realize we have a long way to go in the process of sanctification. Every moment, however, we have the opportunity to pick ourselves up and strive towards our goal.

Although God calls us to identify and repent where we have gone astray, it does not serve us to dwell upon our faults. Instead, it is better to look towards our goal in Christ. One useful tool to help us is asking ourselves some questions of where we want to be in our relationship with Christ and others.

In your life, what would it mean for you to live in the image of Christ? What would you do differently? Are there things that you would stop doing and other activities that you would do more of? How would being more like Christ affect your relationships? What would those relationships look like? Would you act differently towards your peers?

Each of us is a work in progress. Resolving to make changes in our lives and become better examples of Christ is a holy venture and one that we are not left alone to achieve. First, we are assisted on our journey by none other than Christ himself, through his example and presence. During Christmas, we celebrate God coming down and dwelling among us as Emmanuel, God with us. By choosing to be one of us and coming to earth, God gave us an example of how we should live as humans, but Emmanuel is also about God coming presently to dwell within us.

Jesus said, *“Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.”* (Revelation 3:20) Through the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus dwells spiritually within us.

Secondly, God provides Christian fellowship for us to grow to become more like Christ. Jesus said, *“Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”* (Matthew 18:20) When we gather together in the name of Christ, we are assisted in becoming like Christ. In my own Christian journey, I have found the counsel of other Christians to be a great help. By listening to and following the example of other faithful Christians, we see the pathway towards Christ more clearly.

With Christ, we are never alone! Happy New Year!

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Jon 

## *Presbyterian Women*

The next monthly meeting for the Presbyterian Women will be on **January 3rd** at First Presbyterian Church at **10:00 am** in the Gathering Room. Please feel free to join us.

## *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 **January 24th at 6:30 pm**. We meet at The Harbors in the fourth-floor library. This month's selection is "Life on the Mississippi" by Mark Twain. This is a memoir by Mark Twain of his days as a steamboat pilot on the Mississippi River before the American Civil War, and also a travel book, recounting his trip along the Mississippi River from St. Louis to New Orleans many years after the War.

### *January Birthdays*

|    |                 |
|----|-----------------|
| 8  | Bob Cadieu      |
| 8  | Alice Estebo    |
| 8  | Mike Majkrzak   |
| 14 | Joyce Peanosky  |
| 17 | Emily Zimmerman |
| 22 | Janet Smith     |
| 23 | Bill Blair      |
| 30 | Tyler Howell    |
| 31 | Donna Hoffman   |

## *Coffee Hour*

Starting in 2019, Debbie Hofer will be scheduling coffee hour hosts and making sure we have enough supplies. We will be posting who the hosts will be each month in the bulletin and the messenger. If there is an open week with no hosts, there will not be coffee hour that week. Debbie will be calling members soon to fill in where needed. If anyone has questions or would like to serve on a special occasion, please call Debbie at 906-863-3048.

## *Reminders*

The first Sunday of each month is the Food Pantry Collection. One of the Deacons gather up the donations and distribute to the local food pantries.

The loose coin offering is collected the third Sunday of each month. All dollar bills and coin are donated to a special mission of our choice.

Anyone wishing to sign up for Flowers or Coffee Hour can do so on the bulletin board in the Gathering Room. The sign-up sheets are for a three-month period but if there is a special date that isn't there and you would like to reserve it, please contact the church office and it will be reserved on the calendar.

If you know of someone who would like to be added to our current homebound church list, please contact the church office as we update it frequently at 906-863-3889. A Deacon will be contacting the individual to setup home visits and discuss their needs.

# January ~

## BIRTHDAYS

- 18 Roy Peterson  
30 Marilyn Rupert

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Nancy & O.R. Herrild  
4 Wayne & Barb Kopish  
27 Ken & Joan Fifarek

## LITURGISTS

- 6 Josh Lapacz  
13 Karah Nelson  
20 Karen Hipwell  
27

## GUEST MUSICIANS

- 6 Bells & Bows  
13 Marilyn Schoen  
20 Susan Thornton  
27 John Wills

## GREETERS

- 6 Tom & Julie Skrzypinski & Logan  
13 Ellis Langjahr  
20 Jean & Ann Eggener  
27 The Baileys

## *“Show the Love for Joanne Peterson” Potluck Brunch*

The Outreach and Mission committees are planning a potluck brunch for **February 17, 2019 immediately after the service**. This is a brunch so almost anything from breakfast casseroles to regular casseroles, hot dishes, salads and desserts would be appropriate. Warm ovens and a cold refrigerator will be available during the service.

We’re having this brunch to enjoy everyone’s good food and fellowship and also to “show the love for Joanne Peterson.”

A free will offering will be taken with all proceeds to go to Joanne. Any checks written or cash in an envelope with your name on it will be credited to your contribution statement.



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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 • Kay Waypa  
Fellowship • Steve Engeldinger  
Finance • Sam Hofer  
Mission • Patricia Johnson  
Personnel • Sam Hofer  
Worship • DeeAnne Polhmann  
Evangelism/Membership • Sam Hofer

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

Moderator • Karen Menard

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Anita Draska     | Ann Schultz      |
| Karen Fehrenbach | Janet Smith      |
| MaryAnn Langill  | Carol Symyneshen |
| Linda Majkrzak   | Helen Thibodeau  |
| Karen Menard     |                  |

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.  
Tues | 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Thurs | 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

**SESSION**

Clerk of Session • Karen Bickel  
Administration • Liz Murphy  
Building & Grounds • Wally Hitt  
Christian Education • Joy Lapacz  
Finance • Bill Lenca  
Memorial & Mission • Karen Bickel  
Outreach & Fellowship • Ellis Langjhar  
Personnel • Karen Buyarski  
Evangelism • Wally Hitt  
Nominating • Joe Reines  
Worship • Joe Reines

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

Moderator | Pat Pottratz

|                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Marguerite Braley | Lloyd Gomez   |
| Claudia Campbell  | Karen Hipwell |
| Mark Franzen      | Sue Ochs      |
| Gayle Gomez       | Pat Pottratz  |