



Portal

OCTOBER 2022

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe
Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Devon Herrell
Associate Pastor

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. (1 Peter 4:10)

There's nothing like a good church potluck and the best ones I ever attended were in Valley City, North Dakota. I was the interim minister for a year at The Congregational Church of Valley City, and once a month they would have a "covered dish supper." Before church, women would file into the kitchen with their casseroles and crockpots, cake pans and pie tins. Then we'd go up to the sanctuary for worship, accompanied by the delicious smells wafting up from the kitchen. During the last hymn, the members of the Women's Committee would leave to set up the buffet line and make the punch. After worship, I would lead the congregation into the fellowship hall and we'd ooh and ahh over the bounty before us.

The key was to take a little bit of everything because it was all so good. Geri's spareribs were amazing, almost as good as Pat's brisket. Lucille made the best German potato salad I've ever had and Karen made something with carrots, raisins and celery seeds that was not to be missed. Homemade sauerkraut competed with twice baked potatoes, and if it was fall, Sharon would be sure to bring sesame green beans. Then there was the dessert table, covered with cakes and cookies and pies. There was Swedish plum cake and German kringle and Norwegian fattigman. One young woman, who didn't have time to cook, usually brought a package of Double Stuffed Oreos, which was the only dessert my children would eat. We would sit together and enjoy the shared meal, marveling over the food everyone had brought. Those were wonderful gatherings.

Every time I read 1 Peter 4:10, I think of those potlucks. "*Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.*" That is literally what we did at those covered dish meals – we served each other with whatever gift we had received. No one was trying to be the best – although I will admit there was some mild competition between Geri and Pat – but we all brought the best we had to the table to feed the community.

October is Stewardship season, that time of year when we ask all our members and friends to prayerfully consider what financial gifts they will give to support the ministry and mission of the church. Some people have significant financial resources; other people have less – but every gift, every pledge, makes a difference and is much appreciated. What is important is to bring the best gift you have. It's not a competition – don't be Geri or Pat – but it is an opportunity to share the grace we have received with the beloved community. We give not out of a sense of guilt but because our gifts, gathered together, make amazing ministry possible.

Let us serve one another with whatever gifts we have received!

-Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe



ACHE - Fun and fellowship for people in their 20s and 30s

Sunday, Oct. 2: Trip to Uncle John's Cider Mill at 12:45 p.m. (following Lunch & Lounge)

Sunday, Oct. 9: CROP Walk at 2 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 17: Meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Campus Lounge.

Sunday, Oct. 23: John Pavlovitz is at The Peoples Church for the Henry & Annabel Larzelere Lecture Series! We will have lunch following worship and watch him speak at 1 p.m.



Campus Ministry Events for October	Every Sunday Lunch & Lounge Following Worship 11:30am Campus Lounge	Every Tuesday Snack & Chat 8pm Campus Lounge
Sunday 10/9 Crop Walk 2pm (following L&L) Walk to raise funds for hunger relief	Sunday 10/16 Trip to Uncle John's after worship Lunch, Cider/Donuts & Pumpkins	Sunday 10/23 Lunch after worship & Listen at 1pm John Pavlovitz will be here!



NOW HIRING | PEOPLES CHURCH PRESCHOOL

The Peoples Church Preschool is looking to hire early childhood professionals and fill entry level teaching assistant positions. We are able to pay a competitive salary and provide excellent benefits to full-time employees, all in a great environment! Both part-time and full-time schedules are available and we are able to work around students' classes. Must be 18 years old to apply.

Please direct all interest to preschool@thepeopleschurch.com or call Dana Johnson at (517) 332-2885.

PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP

Elisha Smith

Hello PCYG Students and Families!

What a great start to the year we've had! I have loved seeing you back at Youth Group, and especially enjoyed the fun events and conversations we were able to have last month.

October is a fun month! On October 9th we will be participating with the church in the annual Crop Walk, and on October 30th we will be carving pumpkins! Registration for the Crop Walk is required, so please reach out to me if you plan to participate. Regular PCYG will take place on the 2nd, 16th, and 23rd!

If you know of any students who might be interested in joining PCYG, please connect them to me! As always, please reach out with any questions or concerns!

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

Kathi Mitchell

Sunday School

We are blessed to have enough Sunday School volunteers to offer 3 classes of Sunday School each week. It's wonderful to see our class sizes grow and to have this need! We are learning about where it all began, starting with Genesis 1. Students are also creating artwork for Christmas cards in conjunction with the Fine Arts Committee. Keep an eye out for the cards with this amazing artwork!

Carol Choir & Christmas Pageant

Carol Choir has begun and the children are practicing to perform for you on October 30th. The Christmas Pageant cast is working hard at learning their songs and lines to put on a great show for you December 11th. It will be wonderful to have our sanctuary filled with children's voices once again!

Upcoming Events

I hope you can join us for two Family Events coming up! We are hosting a Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 30th from 6:00 -7:30 p.m., with a costume parade at 6:30. Come decorate your car and enjoy the enthusiasm of our children during the Halloween season!

Our first All Church Game Night in 3 years will be Saturday, November 5th from 5:00 - 8:00 in the Social Hall. We'll have pizza for dinner while we enjoy board games, euchre, etc. All ages welcome! We are especially looking for youth and older adults to play easier games with very young children, so their parents can play a different game.

This is a wonderful way to meet other church members in a casual setting! Please RSVP to kmitchell@thepeopleschurch.com.

Family Game Night



ADVENT DEVOTIONAL PROJECT

Our Lenten Devotional project was so successful that we are planning another one for Advent. Scripture readings and guidelines for writing a brief devotional will be available at church later in October. I hope you will consider participating in this wonderful project!

Sunday, November 6th, is All Saints' Day at The Peoples Church.

If you have lost a loved one in the past year and would like their name included in the bulletin, please contact the office at office@thepeopleschurch.com.

New Art Exhibit Showcases Powerful Array of Artistic Techniques and Images



"Dreaming Between the Lines" – a new exhibit by Williamston-based artist Bobbi Kilty, is now on display here at The Peoples Church. It includes 48 diverse pieces from the artist's collection and features five large-size canvasses created especially for the exhibit. Bobbi, who is also a TPC member, unreservedly incorporates a wide variety of materials in her artwork including spackle, layered Japanese paper, housepaint, acrylics and shed snakeskin. She is also exploring combined media in acrylic, watercolor, digital imaging, and encaustic painting. A strong connection with nature is evident throughout Bobbi's work.

Bobbi notes, "For me painting is a joyful, fulfilling process in which a strong connection with nature is evident. I find it stimulating to work with new materials and techniques, experimenting and exploring possibilities, carefully selecting which visual elements to include and which to leave out."

Bobbi Kilty is a painter in encaustic and water media as well as a distinguished arts academic who retired after 36 years as an Interior Design Educator at two universities. She was born in Tampa, Florida and has been drawing since childhood. She began her studies in the Art Department at Northwestern University, where she earned a B.A in Interior Design in 1965. She went on to complete a Master of Fine Arts degree at UCLA in 1969. Bobbi's arts education also includes participation in a program at Osaka University, Japan where she studied Sumie (contemporary Japanese brush painting). This technique is strongly evident in her artwork today. Her exhibit at The Peoples Church features a number of examples of encaustic painting, which is an ancient technique using wax blends, oil stick, collage elements, and a torch or heat gun.

"Dreaming Outside the Lines," will be on display throughout the halls bordering the Sanctuary, in the Thomsen Case across from the Library, and the Kiosk in the Rotunda until December 8. Pick up a catalog for the exhibit inside the Northwest entrance of the church.

The exhibit was installed by Fine Arts Committee Chair; Susan Nowicki, and Members; Jan Angell, Sue Mills, Mary Liechty, Jan Reed, and Kelton Reedy. They were assisted by the artist.

Clarion Ringers - Adult Bell Choir

We did it!! We have polished all 96 bells. We are ready to start a new bell year at The Peoples Church. If you can read music and can count to four, then come join us on Wednesday evenings (7:30-8:30) for an hour of ringing. (Almost an hour... There is a lot of laughter involved.). Hope to see you there!

For more information, please call the church office.



EDGEWOOD VILLAGE

A big THANK YOU from the residents of Edgewood Village, who are grateful for our help this summer in keeping their garden green and growing, and are now enjoying the harvest of vegetables. Edgewood families also send a big thanks for the generous contribution of school supplies from our church family; your outpouring of supplies helped students get off to a good start by being prepared and ready to make this a fantastic school year. Your kindness makes such a positive impact.

We have three specific areas in need of volunteers. First, we need volunteer drivers to transport several senior citizens to the Parkwood YMCA on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. If you are interested and available, please contact Cheryl Leece, our transportation coordinator, at leecem44@gmail.com.

The second area of need is for the Edgewood Village Scholars Program; we are looking for tutors for students in grades 6-12, and for mentors for students in grades 11-12. While general ed tutors are needed, if you have a specific area of expertise that you are willing to share, like a language, or a science or math ability, please consider signing up to help as needed. Mentors will meet with students to help them get ready for college; including assistance with applications, heartfelt encouragement, and guidance as they prepare to graduate from high school. If you are interested in being a tutor and/or a mentor, please contact Abby Barr at abbyjobarr@gmail.com.

Thirdly, Edgewood Village is in need of snacks for children who come to the after school program. They can use individual bags of crackers, chips, pretzels, cookies, and juice boxes. If you would like to help, please bring your snacks to the church office on Sunday or during the week, and Emily Anderson will take them to the children. Thank you!

Following the death of our long time leader Barbara Scott last month, our design team will carry on with shared leadership. We will continue to keep you up to date with opportunities, needs and happenings at Edgewood Village, and information about our work there. Did you know that every Wednesday night, John Stoup and his children pick up unsold food at the Okemos Panera store, and deliver it to the residents of Edgewood Village? Thanks, John and family. Our village is strengthened and enriched by the contributions of time and talent people continue to make, in order to make our partnership valuable!



TAIZÉ SERVICE

Our Taizé Prayer Services are held on the Fourth Sunday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel. The services consist of repetitive and meditative singing, prayer, scripture, and silence. It is a powerful, quiet, contemplative worship experience. This service is inter-denominational and all are welcome.

RE-MEMBER | PINE RIDGE

Re-Member, founded in 1998, is among the longest serving non profit organizations for the Oglala Lakota community on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Their mission statement reads: “Responding to immediate needs, we provide resources that improve the quality of life for members of the Oglala Lakota Nation, and create meaningful opportunities to build understanding for our volunteers.” Re-Member is not affiliated with any religious, political, or policy group. The Community Engagement Ministry, through the generosity of The Peoples Church, has supported this non profit organization monetarily and physically for many years. Volunteers come from all over the nation and the world during the spring and summer months and work on “The Rez”, building beds, handicap ramps, outhouses, repairing homes, and tending to the community gardens. The Peoples Church has sent youth, college, and adult groups to Pine Ridge as volunteers as well as vehicles loaded with mattresses, linens, clothing, materials for building, and other supplies. More than 1100 volunteers per year visit and work at Pine Ridge, often gaining so much more than they are giving. The current projects for Re-Member include two hoop houses to extend the growing season, and Feather II, a community center with a learning kitchen and housing for volunteers. An ongoing project, providing wood for heating, is an important part of the winter season.

We encourage you to find out more about this unique and uplifting organization though [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ReMemberRez) (facebook.com/ReMemberRez) or the [Re-Member website](https://www.re-member.org) (https://www.re-member.org). Thank you for your ongoing contributions that continue to support this and other service organizations!



October Birthdays

80 & Over

Ken Beachler

Jan Calkins

John Cantlon

Bill Dailey

Don Davis

Clyde Flory

Karen Flory

Mary Henry

Eleanor Marazita

Ellie Miller

Jerry Nilson

Barbara Plesscher

Wes Reedy

Jerry Sutton

Dottie Spousta

READING PEOPLE

October 20 at 1:30 in the Robertson Room;

Susan Nowicki will lead our discussion on *The Collector's Daughter: A Novel of the Discovery of Tutankhamun's Tomb*, by Gill Paul. We invite you to join us!

KNITTING PEOPLE

October 27, 1-3 in the Robertson Room;

We meet to knit and crochet prayer shawls, baby blankets, hats and mittens, and other warm items to give to people in our church family and in our wider community. We have yarn, needles, patterns, and helpers if you need instruction and encouragement. Come!

2022 ADVENT CELEBRATION

**December 11th, 2022
from 11:45 to 1:00 p.m.
Snider Social Hall**

Join the Women of Peoples Church for a special gathering celebrating the coming of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

We will enjoy a delicious brunch, fellowship, music and more.

Our featured speaker will be The Peoples Church's beloved Mary West, who will speak on the topic: *A Word to the Wise*. Her presentation will focus on "practical wisdom," primarily wisdom that comes with age. Mary spoke on this subject at a meeting of the Lansing Woman's Club last January, where she received rave reviews.

We hope you can be with us on this special day. All ages are welcome. Tickets are \$10 per person; children under 8 are free. We will begin taking reservations on November 6, following the 10:30 a.m. church service. Watch for the reservation table set up near the Welcome Desk. Please contact Susan Nowicki, Event Chair, at susan.nowick@att.net or 847-651-0192 for more information or with questions.



REGIONAL RECYCLING DAY

Date:

October 8th
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Location:

Chippewa Middle School
4000 Okemos Rd.
Okemos, Michigan 48824

A chance for all residents in the Capital Area to safely recycle their unwanted electronics. For more information, [follow this link](#).

VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY

The new and improved *Peoples Forum* is bringing two outstanding community leaders to our church this fall. We are meeting regularly on the first Sunday of each month. We look forward to many dynamic sessions.

October 9:

Megan Hayes Doherty, President of Hayes Electric
Topic: "Planning for the Electric Vehicle of the Future."

Megan is the fourth generation of the Hayes family to own and operate the 99 year old family business. Megan was recognized in 2021 by Michigan Celebrates Small Business as a "Michigan 50 companies to watch."

November 6:

Brian Calley
Topic: "Autism: Different, Not Less"

Former Lieutenant Governor of Michigan, Brian is currently President and CEO of the Small Business Association of Michigan. He and his wife, Julie, are parents of three children including a son with autism.

Submissions for the November Portal can be sent to zaho@thepeopleschurch.com by October 15th.

NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

 Have you attended a New Member Class in the past and decided you are ready to join this community of faith and make this your church home? If yes, let us know if you would like to join us for our New Member Induction on **November 13th during the 10:30 a.m. worship service**. Contact Robin Matheson at 517-290-3223 or matheso4@msu.edu by October 30th so we can prepare for your induction.



FAME Is Accepting Donations

The FAME program furnishes a fully stocked care closet accessible to all eligible FAME students.



FOSTER YOUTH ALUMNI SERVICES PROGRAM
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | School of Social Work

CARE CLOSET

- Full size toiletries
- Non-Perishable Snacks
- Laundry Pods/Dryer Sheets
- Cleaning/household items
- Toilet Tissue



FAME

Fostering Academics, Mentoring Excellence at MSU

A FAME student is a SPARTAN who has experienced homelessness, foster care, guardianship, kinship care, adoption or is independent.

FAME is working hard to stock their Care Closet, which has been in high demand since the semester started. The biggest needs right now include non-perishable snacks and laundry detergent pods, which can be dropped off in a box behind the Welcome Desk. Additionally, their Amazon Wish List has been updated and can be accessed here: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/13HB1DSNO41M8?ref=wl_share. Anything purchased off of this link will be directly shipped to the FAME office on campus.

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200 W. Grand River Ave.
East Lansing, MI 48823
517.332.5073
ThePeoplesChurch.com

