

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT NOVEMBER 27, 2016

Women of Peoples Church
Cordially invite you to our
Advent Tea 2016
Saturday, December 3
1:00 p.m., Snider Social Hall

"Spiritual Inheritance"

Celebrating our
Generational
Blessings

\$8.00 per person

Isaiah 11:6 ...and a little child
will lead them. NIV

SUNDAY MORNING

8:30 a.m.

Worship Service, Chapel

9:30 a.m.

Adult Sunday School*
Carol Choir Rehearsal*
Confirmation Class*
PCYG Bible Exploration*
Peoples Forum*

10:30 a.m.

Worship Service, Sanctuary
Lunch & Lounge | Campus*
Ministry

***Off this week**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

5:30 p.m.

Community Meal

6:00 p.m.

Youth Choir Rehearsal

6:30 p.m.

Adult Formation Classes
Holy Moly | Children's Education
Peoples Church Youth Group
Yoga Class



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

CHURCH OFFICE

Office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings. Call 517-332-5073.

Rev. Andrew Pomerville 517-908-4442

Senior Pastor
apomerville@thepeopleschurch.com

Rev. Drew Filkins 517-908-4448

Associate Pastor
dfilkins@thepeopleschurch.com

Betsy Aho 517-332-6074

Licensed Minister/Campus Ministry Director
eaho@thepeopleschurch.com

Julie Bills 517-908-4447

Children's Christian Education Director
jbills@thepeopleschurch.com

Jacob Gates 517-332-6264

Youth Director
jgates@thepeopleschurch.com

Dana Johnson 517-908-4449

Preschool Director
djohnson@thepeopleschurch.com

Andy Mayville 517-908-4444

Facility Director
amayville@thepeopleschurch.com

Gerri Lynn Nichols 517-908-4432

Hospitality Director
gnichols@thepeopleschurch.com

Dee Przybylski 517-908-4446

Office Administrator
dprzybylski@thepeopleschurch.com

Matt Treadwell 517-908-4453

Communications Director
mtreadwell@thepeopleschurch.com

Joseph Kennedy, Office Assistant (M, W, F)

Sara Townsend, Office Assistant (M, T, W, Th)

Dr. Jonathan Reed, Music Director

Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music Director

Judy Kabodian, Organist

office@thepeopleschurch.com

Abigail Waller, LMSW, Grief Counselor

Appointments by Pastoral Referral

COUNCIL OF ELDERS | Our Elders meet at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Robertson Room.

Cal Kerr, Chairperson

elders@thepeopleschurch.com

A NOTE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR . . .

Advent is all about waiting, expecting and hoping for what is to come. It is a time when we prepare for Jesus Christ returning to the world, just as we remember his entrance into the world as a child in Bethlehem.



What expectations do we have for this year? What are we anticipating in our community, our nation and our world this Advent? Do our hopes and dreams for tomorrow match the visions of our neighbors? And how do these prophetic ideas influence how we live today in this present moment?

I encourage you to wonder and imagine together about where God is calling our congregation. What does our future resemble as we wait for our God who is here - almost, but not yet?

The act of waiting for something we believe will occur is very different from hoping for the unknown and unbelieved. Let us hope with faith, as we see the Kingdom of God in our midst. Make this Advent a time of joyful, peaceful and loving expectation of God in our world! Take this message to all people, in all times and in all places and trust that our Lord goes before us, beside us and with us!

Pastor Andrew



**MAKE A
GIFT
ONLINE**

ThePeoplesChurch.com/GIVE

COVER ART | "Divine Mercy for the World"
by Stephen B. Whatley, 2013.

ALL ARE WELCOME | *Whether you are young or old, rich or poor, doubtful or hopeful ... no matter where you are in your faith journey, YOU are welcome here. For those with children, be assured that noises and wiggling are signs of a church that is alive and growing; your entire family is welcome in worship.*

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT | NOVEMBER 27, 2016

Prelude "Prepare the Way, O Zion" arr. Dale Wood

Choral Introit (10:30 a.m.) "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"
Sanctuary Choir directed by Dr. Jonathan Reed

Welcome to The Peoples Church! Rev. Drew Filkins

Call to Worship

God of hope, we come to you in the midst of a world fraught with troubles. Although the darkness is powerful, open our eyes, Lord, to the light of your presence. Give us faith to stand against the voices of division and violence. Through your Spirit remake us into hope-filled disciples, discovering lives attune to your wonder, and sparking in others a desire to know you more. In the name of the One who comes to us, we pray, Amen.

Gathering Hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" No. 82
(Please stand if able.)

Procession of the Light of Christ

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Responsive Prayer

Leader: One candle burning bright,

People: Chasing away the darkness from light.

Leader: One candle glowing light,

People: The blessing of God, giving new sight.

People: God of light, place a candle in our hearts, so we may walk as children of the Light, treading gently on the paths of peace and ever ready to welcome the signs of new life. Amen.

***Christ is coming! Let creation from its groans and labor cease;
Let the glorious proclamation hope restore and faith increase:
Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Come, O blessed Prince of peace.***

New Testament Reading

Luke 23:1-5
(Pew Bible Page 1058; Large Print 1,607)

Celebration of Holy Communion (8:30 a.m.)

Anthem (10:30 a.m.)

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

arr. Michael Praetorius

Children's Moment (10:30 a.m.)

Passing the Peace of Christ *(Please stand if able.)*

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Hebrew Scripture Reading

Daniel 6:6-27
(Pew Bible Page 889; Large Print 1,348)

Sermon

“Arbitrary Rules”

Rev. Drew Filkins



@Connect2TPC #TPCsermon

Prayers of the People

(During the pastoral prayer there will be a time to offer prayers of joy and concern, voiced aloud or silently for and on behalf of others.)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving and Dedication of Gifts

Offertory (10:30 a.m.)

“People, Look East”
Leah Brzyski, soprano

arr. Nancy Grundahl

Act of Praise

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

**We gather here to remember God's glorious deeds—
recorded for all time by people
whose lives were touched by divine grace.
As people of hope, we affirm the great works of God,
and the importance of serving others.**

**Lord use these gifts to be a blessing,
so that generations to come
will continue to honor your holy name. Amen.**

Sending Hymn

(Please stand if able.)

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

No. 93

Benediction *(Please stand if able.)*

Benediction Response

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

Postlude

"Savior of the Nations, Come"

arr. Paul Manz

**PASTOR ANDREW AND RACHELL POMERVILLE WILL BE IN UGANDA WITH THE
NYAKA PROJECT NOV. 23-DEC. 3. PRAY FOR A SUCCESSFUL MISSION TRIP.**

Today's Floral Offering

Given in loving memory of Dr. Corliss Arnold by his wife Betty & his family.



GROW

WEDNESDAY MORNING SERMON PREP

Join our pastoral staff for a wonderful preview of Sunday's scripture readings. This dynamic discussion often helps our pastors prepare their Sunday sermons and offers wonderful opportunities to dive deeper into scripture. We gather at 8:30 a.m. each Wednesday in the Robertson Room. All are welcome.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Led by Pastor Andrew and Dave Forsberg, we explore the Sunday readings and discuss what they mean to our lives. We meet every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Fischbach Library.

"HOLIDAYS AND HOLY DAYS"

View and enjoy the beautiful new Fine Arts Exhibit throughout the church hallways. This exhibit features the creative talents of our own Susan Reedy, a calligrapher and member of the Fine Arts Committee.

ENGAGING OUR REFUGEE NEIGHBORS

During Advent, we recognize that Jesus was a refugee who fled his homeland to Egypt. On Nov. 30 and Dec. 7, we will be welcoming speakers from St. Vincent Refugee Services. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. and the program will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Robertson Room.



SHARE

WPC JEWELRY SALE | MAY 20 & 21

Gather pieces of treasured items no longer worn, new and unused or even broken. We are accepting donations of jewelry, scarves, purses, wallets, and other accessories. Also in need of puzzles/games, MSU items, art, and CDs/DVDs. Donations can be taken to the church office weekdays 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

2016 ADVENT HOLIDAY CALENDAR

THE PEOPLES CHURCH



DECEMBER 3 | ADVENT TEA - 1:00 p.m., Snider Social Hall

DECEMBER 4 | ADVENT MUSIC SUNDAY - 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

DECEMBER 5 | FREE HOLIDAY BRASS CONCERT - 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

DECEMBER 11 | CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

DECEMBER 21 | LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE - 6:30 p.m., Chapel

DECEMBER 24 | CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE - 6:00, 9:00 & 11:00 p.m., Sanctuary



CONNECT

WPC ADVENT TEA | DEC. 3

The Women of Peoples Church will host a "Christmas Tea Party" from 1 to 3 p.m. on Dec. 3 in Snider Social Hall. The annual Advent Tea is for young and old alike: women and daughters, men and sons. Join us in welcoming the Christ child and all the wonders of the holiday season. Tickets are \$8; children younger than 5 are free. Childcare also will be available.

ADVENT MUSIC SUNDAY | DEC. 4

The Sanctuary Choir will lead Advent Music Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 4 with "A Festival of Contemporary Carols".

FREE HOLIDAY BRASS CONCERT | DEC. 5

The Fine Arts Committee presents the MSU College of Music Holiday Brass Concert at 7:00 p.m. on Dec. 5 in the Sanctuary. Admission is free.

PARENTS AND KIDS GROUP

The Parents and Kids Group has monthly gatherings for parents and their children (5 and under). Cheryl Rockwell and Margaret Tassaro are the coordinators. Interested? Contact Margaret at mtassaro@gmail.com.

WORSHIP SERVICE AT THE MARQUETTE

Pastor Andrew leads 2 p.m. communion service on the first Sunday of each month at The Marquette retirement community chapel at 5968 Park Lake Rd. in East Lansing.

GREETINGS! MY NAME IS LAURA MILLER-PURRENHAGE.

I recently completed my M.Div. at Western Theological Seminary and plan to pursue ordination in the United Church of Christ. My home church is Edgewood. I am currently doing Clinical Pastoral Education through Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo. As part of that program, your pastors have generously agreed to bring me aboard the pastoral care team for the next 3 months. I am volunteering by visiting folks at home, at care facilities and in the hospital. When you see me around, please feel free to stop me and chat. I'm really looking forward to getting to know you!



SERVE

SNOW PANTS

Snow pants are often badly needed for children in grades K-6. Our Community Engagement Ministry is collecting new or gently used snow pants, or funds to purchase them. Contact Lary Hill at 517-339-2502.

REFUGEE COLLECTION

Community Engagement is holding their quarterly collection of blankets for St. Vincent. Collection twin and double beds sizes, no throw blankets please. We are also accepting winter coats, new or gently used for all ages. Donations may be dropped off in the Northwest Entrance.

SIGN UP | Return forms to Offertory Plate on Sunday or the Church Office during the week.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA MEMORIAL GIFTS (PLEASE PRINT)

_____ YES! I would like to make a \$20 contribution to the Sanctuary Decorating Fund. Please accept my gift:

_____ In memory of

_____ In honor of

_____ In celebration of

_____ To the Glory of God

Given by: _____

Please make checks payable to **THE PEOPLES CHURCH** and indicate "Poinsettias" in the memo line. DEADLINE TO ORDER IS DEC. 12

Questions? Contact Dee Przybylski at 517-332-5073 or dprzybylski@thepeopleschurch.com

YES! I WANT TO HELP DELIVER HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

I will help with: Christmas Baskets | Dec. 24

WANT TO HELP AT SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY KITCHEN IN 2017

JAN. 17, FEB. 21, MAR. 21, APR. 18, MAY 16, JUN. 20, JUL. 18, AUG. 15, SEP. 19, OCT. 19, NOV. 21, DEC. 19 (circle dates you are available)

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Questions? Contact Jan Perron at 517.337.2656 or rperron631@aol.com