

SENIOR PASTOR

I AM GOING TO SCOTLAND

On July 21, my family will fly to Europe as part of a “pulpit swap” with The Glens and Kirriemuir Old Parish (GKOP) in Angus, Scotland. We could not be more excited!

Throughout my doctoral studies at The University of Aberdeen, I have relished the opportunities to develop relationships with my ministry colleagues from across the pond. The Rev. Malcolm Rooney, the senior minister at GKOP, has become a trusted friend and conversation partner over the past few years and I am delighted our Council of Elders extended an invitation to him to serve as our visiting pastor while I minister in his parish.



Pastor Malcolm was a guest speaker at a Sunday morning Peoples Forum two years ago and assisted in worship at that time. I know he will be infinitely blessed by your hospitality and grace while he is in residence here in East Lansing.

LEARN MORE about the Rev. Malcolm Rooney on Page 2.

This is an excellent opportunity to share our faith across an ocean as a testament to the Kingdom of God that stretches across all times and places.

Pastor Malcolm will offer his pastoral leadership during Sunday services on August 2, 9 and 16, in addition to his participation in midweek activities and community gatherings.

My family is equally excited to have this outstanding opportunity. Rachell, the children and I can't wait to see Scotland again as we strengthen the bonds between our congregations.

We will be overseas from July 21 to Aug. 26 and plan to share our adventures online through our family blog posted on ThePeoplesChurch.com and shared on the church's Facebook page.

While the majority of this mini-sabbatical will be spent in Scotland, we also will visit Peoples Church members living in France and take side trips to England and Iceland.

I know this time serving the Kirk in Scotland will inspire and inform my ministry when I return to East Lansing. Our family asks for your prayers while we are away as we represent The Peoples Church in so many wonderful ways.

Since our house fire, we have felt such an amazing outpouring of love and support from you, our family and friends. God's love is most evident in our lives through the love of our sisters and brothers in faith.

Please be assured of my prayers for blessings on you and your families this summer.

Grace and peace be with you,

Pastor Andrew

OUTREACH



A \$2,000 GIFT AND SPECIAL COLLECTION WILL SUPPORT OUR PORTLAND NEIGHBORS

In response to the destruction caused by the June 22 tornado that ripped through our neighboring Michigan community of Portland, members of our Community Engagement Ministry made an immediate \$2,000 gift to support relief efforts there and called for a special collection to be gathered.

A gift of \$500 has been made to three churches severely damaged by the tornado (Portland's First Baptist Church, First Congregational Church and United Methodist Church) as well as another \$500 gift for the Portland Community Fund (\$2,000 total) on behalf of The Peoples Church.

Members of The Peoples Church may make individual online gifts to support their Portland neighbors at ThePeoplesChurch.com or drop a check in the Sunday offering and indicate “Portland Tornado Relief” in the memo line.

If you would like to learn more about the Community Engagement Ministry, contact chairperson Mimi Burpee at mimiburpee@gmail.com.



MEMORIAL DEDICATIONS FOR SUNDAY FLOWERS

Sunday Floral Dedications offer members weekly opportunities to celebrate important moments and remember loved ones. Dedications for Sanctuary Flowers may be reserved with a memorial gift of \$85 made payable to The Peoples Church. Gifts benefit the Sanctuary Fund. Sundays may be reserved by using the sign-up notebook located at the Welcome Center or contacting the Church Office at 517-332-5073.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

*80 & OVER

- 1 - Frank McKowen
- 11 - Lary Hill
- 12 - Jim Dalley
- 12 - William Walworth, Jr.
- 13 - Edith Newman
- 14 - Jack Bates
- 16 - Helen Ramsey
- 21 - Martha Bristol
- 24 - Rosemary Walker
- 25 - Marilyn Harding
- 30 - Mary Fossum

ANNIVERSARIES

*MILESTONE & 60+

- 4 - Sal & Joanne DiFranco (62)
- 7 - Tom & Traci Dudley (25)
- 21 - Alvin & Dorothy Boettcher (64)

If we missed you, please accept our apology. Contact the office to make sure we have your correct information on file.

MEET THE REV. MALCOLM ROONEY

The Rev. Malcolm Rooney was a teacher of physical education and a principal teacher of guidance for 16 years before entering the ministry of the Church of Scotland.

Following three years at the University of Edinburgh he was called to Kirriemuir Old Parish in 1993. In 1999, Kirriemuir Old united with a rural congregation called The Glens. This brought together Kirriemuir Old and its one building with the rural parish charge of The Glens that had (and still has) three active centers of worship. Pastor Malcolm is assisted in his work by an administrator, a team minister, a pastoral staff and a very large network of volunteers.



He is particularly interested in the development of spirituality using the old Celtic Anamchara model of "Soul Friends and Spiritual Conversation."

For the past 10 years he has worked with his local colleagues in the West Angus Area Ministry to develop a group practice model of ministry. This has brought five charges together, each retaining its own unique identity but working in an atmosphere of co-operation and support.

The West Angus Area Ministry has a footprint of over 800 square miles with some 12,000 people living in its Parishes.

Pastor Malcolm is adamant that Group Practice Ministries will be one of the substantive models of ministry in the 21st Century. He is also passionately concerned about climate change and the church's response to this challenge. He is a member of the Board of Eco Congregation Scotland and is the Environment Officer for Rotary District 1010 covering more than 80 clubs from central Scotland to the north.

In whatever spare time is available he enjoys gardening, hillwalking, fishing and reading. In the past four years he has become the proud grandfather of four grandsons.

Pastor Malcolm's wife, Christine, will accompany him on his trip to East Lansing this summer. Chris was a teacher of French and German but when the family moved to Kirriemuir, she worked for 15 years as pastoral assistant in the Glens and Kirriemuir Old. She retired three years ago and now spends her time golfing and baby sitting, as well as looking after Malcolm!

This will be Malcolm and Christine's third trip to the United States and Michigan. They did a pulpit exchange in 2005 with Pastor Andrew's home Church in Brighton and then a visit in 2012 for a wedding in Washington, D.C., and at the same time a visit to The Peoples Church.

When he is in East Lansing, Pastor Malcolm will be looking at U.S. church attitudes to climate change and he also hopes to strengthen links between his home congregations and The Peoples Church.

SAVE THE DATE: WOMEN'S RETREAT SET FOR OCT. 15

Mark your calendars for the 2015 Women of Peoples Church annual women's retreat. This year's retreat theme will be "What the Heart Desires" and will be facilitated by our own Betsy Aho and retired Rev. Penny Swartz. It will take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at The Peoples Church. Watch for more information coming soon.





EDGEWOOD VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP

SUPPORTED BY THE PEOPLES CHURCH OF EAST LANSING



Photos courtesy of Vicky Ramirez-Smith, Edgewood Village

PARTNERSHIP CELEBRATES FIRST YEAR OF NEW RELATIONSHIPS

On June 1, 34 people gathered at the home of Barbara Scott to celebrate the first anniversary of The Peoples Church's Edgewood Village Partnership.

Special guests were John Duley and Tom Schaberg (Edgewood Board President), four Edgewood staff members and their children. Design Team members, coordinators of the various project groups, along with Pastors Andrew and Drew all joined together in an evening of fellowship and good food.

Growing plants, symbolizing the anticipated continuing growth of the partnership, were distributed to those attending. A highlight of the event was the presentation of a plaque, to Scott from Schaberg, that read: "In grateful appreciation of our partnership with the Peoples Church commemorating one year of community involvement and working for social justice, June 1, 2015. From everyone at Edgewood."

SUMMER IS A BUSY TIME FOR THE EDGEWOOD VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP

While many programs take a summer break, Peoples Church volunteers continue to increase and expand the church's partnership with its neighbors in the Edgewood Village community. About a dozen volunteers spent part of a recent Saturday working to improve and ready the gardens in the village. Most recently the focus was on the flower garden; last month's work prepared the vegetable garden space for planting.

Nearly 30 children from Edgewood Village participated in our Vacation Bible School this summer. So many participated this year that they more than filled our two church vans. A bus from Dean Transportation was needed to make the twice-daily trips to and from the camp. Riding the bus, taking attendance and assisting the children make their way to the place where many broadening experiences took place was Design Team Member John Stroup, who said that being the daily "host" on the bus was in his word "the best volunteer job anyone could have!" Thanks to the help of our church's middle and high school student helpers, as well a adult volunteers -- about 80 in all -- considerable time, energy, creativity and love was extended to make sure that the 120 grade schoolers in attendance had a memorable experience.

Additionally, a new women's project is just getting underway. The first project involves creating a wall hanging that the women are making from hand decorated cloth squares. This stitchery project will help participants' sewing skills and offer special bonding experiences for the sewers.

-Maxine Ferris

CONNECT

MEMORIAL SERVICES: JULY 10, 11 & 12

The lives of three beloved matriarchs of our community of faith will be celebrated this week. A memorial service for Mary Nash will take place at 11 a.m. on Friday in the Sanctuary. A memorial service for Katie Ralph will take place at 11 a.m. on Saturday in the Chapel. And a memorial service for Dorothy Barr will take place at 2 p.m. next Sunday, July 12.

SENIOR RECITAL: JULY 26

All are invited and welcome to attend Peoples Church member DJ Shafer's senior recital at 6:30 p.m. on July 26 in the Sanctuary. The recital will feature different genres of music and some special guests. It's his way of saying thank you to family, friends and especially his Peoples Church family for all of their support throughout the years. Desserts will be served in the Robertson Room following the concert.



WNL! MENU

COMMUNITY MEAL

5:30 P.M., FRIENDSHIP HALL

JULY 15

Brats & Knockwurst,
Baked Beans, Cole Slaw
Seasonal Fruit and Brownies

JULY 22

Pork BBQ, Pasta Salad,
Seasonal Vegetables, Grapes,
and Ice Cream Sandwiches

JULY 29

BBQ Kielbasa Kabob,
Wild Rice, Fresh Vegetable
Platter and Fruit Cobbler

COME OUT TO THE BALLPARK AND SEE THE



with **THE PEOPLES CHURCH**



Sunday, August 23
2:05 pm

Cost: Adults \$15 Kids (3-12) \$10

Ticket Includes: Lawn Seating, All-You-Can-Eat Meal.

Order Deadline: Sunday, August 16

*You will receive your tickets during the week before the game.
As part of Kids Day, all kids are invited to play catch on the field before the game and run the bases after the game. Enjoy zoo animals, airbrush tattoos and more on the concourse.*



YES! We want to GO NUTS!
with **THE PEOPLES CHURCH**

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Home

Number of Adult Tickets: _____ x \$15 = _____

Number of Child Tickets: _____ x \$10 = _____

Total Cost: _____

Make checks payable to **THE PEOPLES CHURCH.**

Indicate **LUGNUTS GAME** in the memo line.



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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JULY 2015 PORTAL

