

SENIOR PASTOR

I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

YOU'RE INVITED TO COME OVER AND CELEBRATE

It is always a joy to see so many family and friends return home to celebrate Christmas. We long to be reunited with our loved ones who seem scattered across the four corners of the earth.

While social media, e-mail and letters are a nice way to stay connected, there is nothing like face-to-face reunions we celebrate over meals, homecomings and worship celebrations.

This time of year is full of opportunities to gather with neighbors, family and friends in worship, fellowship, service and mission here at The Peoples Church.

We have concerts, special services, and times of reflection set aside this month in preparation of Christ's birth and the joyful reminder that he will come again.

Our family is particularly thankful this year as we anxiously anticipate the return to our home after being displaced the past seven months following our house fire.

We will never be able to thank you enough, our church family and friends, for the kindness, generosity and support you've provided us throughout this trying year.

As a way to show our gratitude, we are hosting an all-church open house at our newly refurbished home 5 to 8 pm. on Dec. 21.

Please be sure stop by during this time if your schedule permits and let us say thank you for your help and patience during this difficult transition in our family's life. We are so blessed to be a part of a warm and gracious group of Christian brothers and sisters who love and care so much.

Yet while we celebrate, be sure to pray for and remember other members of God's family who do not have these happy reunions to expect.

While some rejoice, others are displaced from their homes because of loss, war, famine and poverty.

We must be aware of the struggles in our world that prevent us from sharing the joy of hope with all people. Let us remember the widows, orphans and refugees in our midst.

Jesus and his parents were simple refugees looking for hospitality so long ago. Let us show a holy invitation to all people, from all places and all times as we welcome Jesus into our midst.

Have a safe, happy, and holy Advent and Christmas!

Pastor Andrew



2015 ADVENT HOLIDAY CALENDAR THE PEOPLES CHURCH

DECEMBER 6
CHILDREN'S
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

DECEMBER 6
BENEFIT FOR BRANDON
& BETHANY FOOTE
7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

DECEMBER 13
ADVENT MUSIC SUNDAY
10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

DECEMBER 14
FREE HOLIDAY BRASS CONCERT
7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

DECEMBER 16
LONGEST NIGHT
WORSHIP SERVICE
6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

DECEMBER 21
PASTOR ANDREW'S OPEN HOUSE
5 - 8 p.m., 1137 Teakwood Cir.

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

THE PEOPLES CHURCH FISCHBACH LIBRARY

Check out these and some of the other new titles available to borrow from our church library...

- In **"ORDINARY MIRACLES,"** ordained minister and blogger, Rachel S. Greber gives voice to the grit of parenting. As the disciples recognized Jesus on the Road to Emmaus, Rachel discovers the holy gift of mothering three "active" boys.
- Henri J. M. Nouwen openly reflects on his personal struggles and growth as a priest serving at L'Arche, a community for the mentally impaired, in his book **"IN THE NAME OF JESUS."** His writing movingly conveys how his heart-warming relationships with that will touch the reader deeply.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

*80 & OVER

- 1 - Gene Cornelius
- 3 - Harold Weaver
- 4 - Alan Grunewald
- 6 - Peter Schroeder
- 6 - Virginia Williams
- 10 - Gladys Hindes
- 21 - James Close
- 22 - Audrey Wilson
- 24 - Pat Brogan
- 25 - Jean Porter
- 30 - Gary Coopes
- 31 - Denny Rosenbrook

ANNIVERSARIES

*MILESTONE & 60+

- 3 - Roger & Gwyneth Schroeder (62)
- 19 - Robert & Luella Erbes (61)
- 27 - Don & Merlyn Dickson (75)

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



HEALTH MATTERS

THE PEOPLES CHURCH WELLNESS EFFORT

'WAKE UP AND START LIVING'

9:30 a.m. | Jan. 10 | Robertson Room

Many Americans are overweight, unfit, stressed and maintain poor diets. They go through life in a semi-conscious state – not thinking about what they put in their mouths and when and if they are going to exercise. Don't be normal – be inspired to "Wake Up and Start Living!!" Join Patrick Sustrich MS as he shows us how to overcome the barriers to exercise, plan for life's obstacles and eat healthy. Sustrich has extensive knowledge in physiology, nutrition, chemistry and currently serves as Vice President for Health & Wellness for HGB hospital in Charlotte.

'BALANCE AS YOU AGE'

6:30 p.m. | Jan. 13 | Robertson Room

Maintaining your balance is an important part of avoiding falls! More than one-third of adults over age 65 suffer falls each year. Serious injuries such as hip fractures can result and the consequences can be profound. Karri Wills MPT, and Kim Dickerson, Director of ALIVE Clinical Services will be on hand to help you assess your balance and share ways you can work on and improve balance throughout your normal day.

THANK YOU

Our annual Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child is complete! Thank you for your grateful heart. Members of our Peoples Church family filled 119 shoeboxes with gifts of love for children around the world this year. That represents nearly \$5,200 in giving.

*- With gratitude,
The Women of Phoebe Circle*



CROP WALK RAISES \$2,000

The 2015 Greater Lansing CROP Hunger Walk held on Oct. 11 featured four walkers from The Peoples Church. They were Carrie Young, Susan Kilmer, Douglas McFalls and Loretta Johnston. These four were supported by donors who contributed \$1,517 and supplemented by a \$500 donation from the Community Engagement Ministry. In total, our church contributed \$2,017 to this worthy cause. Well done!

JOB OPPORTUNITY: PRESCHOOL TEACHER

Peoples Church Preschool seeks a full-time lead teacher for its 2-year-old classroom. This position includes curriculum development and implementation, child assessment, parent communication and classroom management, among other duties. The position offers a competitive benefits package which includes paid planning time, vacation and sick leave, and professional development opportunities. Candidates must have a bachelor's degree in child development or early childhood education (or a related field). Contact Preschool Director Dana Johnson at preschool@thepeopleschurch.com or (517) 332-2885.

WPC FRUIT & FUDGE SALE PICK UP | Be sure to pick up your orders from the annual WPC Fruit & Fudge Sale on Dec. 5 or Dec. 6 from All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbott Rd. in East Lansing. Pick up is available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday and Noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday.

CONNECT | GROW | SERVE | SHARE

BENEFIT CONCERT | DEC. 6

Join the musical friends of Brandon and Bethany Foote as they gather at The Peoples Church at 7 p.m. on Dec. 6 to play a benefit concert for this beloved couple. The concert celebration will include music by Seth Bernard, Drew Howard, Max Lockwood, Steve Leaf, John Hanson, Tony Roth and Joyce Walker, Micah Ling, Jen Sygit, Laura Bates, the Wilson Brothers, Joey Shultz and more! Brandon is taking time off of work to continue his quest for better health while they also await the birth of their first child. Bethany is the assistant director at our Peoples Church Preschool and the couple performs as the musical duo "Gifts or Creatures." Admission is \$10 for adults and \$8 for students. Children age 12 and under free.

FREE HOLIDAY BRASS CONCERT | DEC. 14

The Fine Arts Committee will present an MSU College of Music Holiday Brass Concert at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 14 in the Sanctuary. Admission is free.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE! | DEC. 9

Join us this Wednesday for our special holiday *WNL!* celebration as we enjoy intergenerational fellowship and fun building ginger-bread houses. We will gather at 5:30 p.m. in Snider Social Hall for our Community Meal.

ADULT COAT COLLECTION | DEC. 6 & 13

Community Engagement will collect clean and in good repair adult-sized winter coats and jackets to be donated for distribution through St. Vincent Catholic Charities. Look for the collection box in Northwest Entrance Dec. 6 and 13.

BREAD DELIVERERS NEEDED

Panera Bread in Okemos generously donates all its leftover bread to Edgewood Village every Wednesday night at closing (9:00 p.m.). We are looking for a volunteer to pick up bread on Wednesday evening and deliver it to our neighbors at Edgewood Village on Thursday mornings. Contact Barbara Scott at 517-889-5603.

CHRISTMAS WISH LIST GIFT WRAPPING | DEC. 15

The Community Engagement Ministry is looking for help wrapping gifts donated for its Edgewood Village Partnership "Christmas Wish List" at 1 p.m. on Dec. 15 in the Robertson Room. Questions? Contact Emily Anderson at 517-648-0632

SOUTHSIDE KITCHEN

Our church is continuing to serve lunches at the Southside Kitchen on a monthly basis. It's exciting to see how our volunteer base has grown. Thank you for your outstanding support. The Peoples Church has once again been given the third Tuesday of each month starting in January 2016 (Jan. 19, Feb. 16, March 15, Apr. 19, May 17, June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20). If you are interested in helping with this wonderful mission, contact Janet Perron at RPerron631@aol.com and let her know the dates you can serve.

PEOPLES FORUM

Join us each Sunday for interesting and informative "Voices of the Community" at 9:30 a.m. in the Robertson Room.

DEC. 6 | NATHAN TRIPLETT
Current Issues facing East Lansing

DEC. 13 | KEN BEACHLER
"A Christmas Reading"

BOY SCOUTS FUNDRAISER AT BUFFALO WILD WINGS | DEC. 14



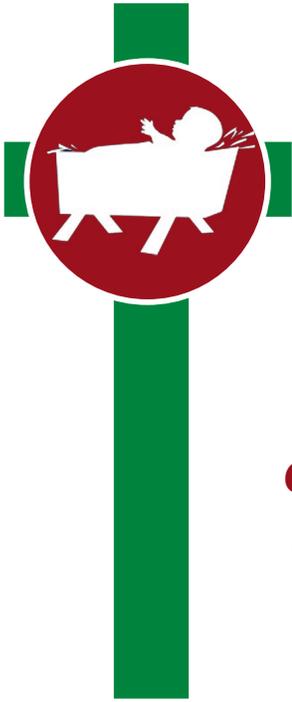
Mark your calendar to support our Boy Scouts of Troop 2 when they host a fundraiser Dec. 14 at Buffalo Wild Wings in East Lansing. Proceeds will benefit Troop 2 as they host a group of international scouts and participate in an international camporee in Northern Michigan during the summer of 2016. Watch for the event flyer coming soon so you will be able to support our local Boy Scouts.

WNL! MENU COMMUNITY MEAL 5:30 P.M.



DECEMBER 9
Sub Sandwiches
Fresh Vegetables & Dip
Seasonal Fruit
Rice Crispy Treats

DECEMBER 16
Rustic Breads
Soup



CHRISTMAS EVE

Candlelight Worship Services

AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

6:00 p.m. | Family Service with Youth & Children's Choirs

9:00 p.m. | Traditional Service with the Sanctuary Choir

11:00 p.m. | Midnight Vigil and Traditional Carols