

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

200 W. Grand River Ave. | East Lansing, MI 48823
517.332.5073 | [ThePeoplesChurch.com](https://www.ThePeoplesChurch.com)

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. -
in the Sanctuary & Livestream
on YouTube

Nursery 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School follows the
Children's Moment

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMMING

Our community meal
outreach program continues.
Individually prepared meals
can be picked up between
5:00—6:00 p.m. in the
Northwest entrance of the
building. For more details,
check out [The Peoples
Church Facebook](#) page.

ASL Interpreted Service

The Peoples Church is proud
to welcome ASL interpreters
for our 10:30 a.m. worship
service and for special
events.

THE PEOPLES CHURCH STAFF

Office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri., and Sunday mornings. Phones are monitored from 9:00 a.m. to 2: 00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Reception Desk (517) 332.5073

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe (517) 908.4442
Senior Pastor, United Church of Christ
smonroe@thepeopleschurch.com

Rev. Dr. Devon Herrell (517) .908.4448
Associate Pastor, United Methodist
dherrell@thepeopleschurch.com

Rev. Penny Swartz (517).648.8987
Minister Emeritus & Associate Pastor, NACCC
pswartz@thepeopleschurch.com

Jess Beurkens (517) 908.4446
Finance Administrator
jbeurkens@thepeopleschurch.com

Dana Johnson (517) 908.4449
Preschool Director
djohnson@thepeopleschurch.com

Beth Lundy (517) 908.4453
Membership Coordinator
blundy@thepeopleschurch.com

Zack Matthews (517) 908.4444
Facility Director
zmatthews@thepeopleschurch.com

Kathi Mitchell (517) 908.4447
Children's Christian Education Director
kmitchell@thepeopleschurch.com

Elizabeth Price (517) 332.5073
Communications Specialist
eprice@thepeopleschurch.com

Elisha Smith (517) 332.6264
Youth Director
esmith@thepeopleschurch.com

Dr. Jonathan Reed, Director of Music
Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music & Bell Choir Director
Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

Elders meet at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Robertson Room. Kari Naghtin, Chair (elders@thepeopleschurch.com)

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.

JOIN US REMOTELY!

To join the online
livestream of the
worship service, click
[here!](#)

To join the worship
service via telephone,
please dial
(844) 933-0517
and follow the prompts.

**MAKE A GIFT
ONLINE**

[CLICK HERE!](#)

Order of Service | September 26, 2021

Prelude

Cantilena
Judy Kabodian, Organ

Charity Boyles

Please take this opportunity to fill out the black attendance pad found at the end of your pew.

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

***Call to Worship**

One Our faith draws us together this day.
Let us trust enough to open our ears and our hearts.

**All We have heard of God's miracles in other times;
Our ancestors have kept the story alive for us.**

One Give ear, all people, to God's word for today.
Taste the bounty of God's blessing here and now.

**All We long for a faith that makes sense today.
We want to keep the story alive for new generations.**

One God's revelation is for all people, near and far.
God is waiting to communicate with you and me.

**All May God have mercy on us and all peoples.
Surely God's will shall be made known to us.**

***Gathering Hymn**

"All Creatures of Our God and King" (v. 1-3)

no. 15

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia! Alleluia! O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam, sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain. Alleluia! Alleluia! O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear. Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shadows of the night. Alleluia! Alleluia! Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds such blessings on our way, sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All Creatures of Our God and King
Text: Francis of Assisi (1225)
Music: Geistliche Kirchengesang (1623)
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

God of love and of grace, you know the secrets of our hearts: How blind we are to our own faults, yet harsh in judging others; how swift we are to take for gain, yet slow to give for others; how proud we are of our success, yet grudging in our praise of others. Remember, O God, your tender care and love unfailing. Do not remember our sins and offenses, but remember us in your goodness, in accordance with your endless mercy.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

****Congregational Response***

no. 437

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy! You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

****Passing the Peace of Christ***

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

Children's Moment

Anthem

"With a Voice of Singing"

Martin Shaw

Directed by Dr. Jonathan Reed

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia. Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia. O be joyful in God, all ye lands. O sing praises to the honor of his name, make his praise to be glorious. With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

Scripture

Esther 7:1-10, 9:20-22

Sermon

"What is Your Petition? What is Your Request"

Rev. Penny Swartz

****Hymn of Response***

"For All the Faithful Women" (v. 1-2, 4)

no. 324

For all the faithful women who served in days of old, to you shall thanks be given; to all, their story told. They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave. To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your power to save.

We praise your name for Miriam, who sang triumphantly while Pharaoh's vaunted army lay drowned beneath the sea; for Ruth, who left her homeland and ventured forth in faith, who pledged to serve and worships Naomi's God till death.

Lord, hear our praise of Dorcas, who served the sick and poor. Her hands were cups of kindness, her heart an open door. O God, for saints and servants, our fervent prayer we raise, that, faithful in your service, our lives may sing your praise.

For All the Faithful Women
Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr. (1975)
Music: David Evans (1927)
Copyright: 2013
CCLI#: 1698862

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Devon Herrell

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.

Invitation to Give

[Give Now \(onrealm.org\)](http://onrealm.org)

****Act of Praise***

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

****Prayer of Dedication***

Loving God, Mother of us all, may these gifts, given gratefully, be brought to life through the power of your creative Spirit. Multiply and use them to bring the word and the touch of Jesus to your people in this place and throughout the world. Amen.

****Sending Hymn***

“Take My Life” (v. 1, 3, 6)

no. 697

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King; take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee, filled with messages from thee.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

Take My Life
Text: Frances Ridley Havergal (1874)
Music: H. A. Cesar Malan (1827)
Copyright: 2013
CCLI# 1698862

****Benediction***

Benediction Response

Postlude

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

arr. Ron Boud

****Please stand as able***

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

SERMON PREVIEW GROUP: meets each Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Join the meeting [here](#). Meeting ID: 883 8071 4830. You can also dial 1 929 205 6099 and when prompted enter 883 8071 4830.

TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP: We are just beginning the book, *No Innocent Bystanders: Becoming an Ally in the Struggle for Justice*, by Dr. Shannon Craigo-Snell and Christopher J. Doucot. Co-author, Craigo-Snell, will be speaking at Peoples on October 17 as part of the Henry and Annabel Larzelere Memorial Lecture Series. **Mission Statement:** As men of faith, we read the Bible and other books, listening for God's voice and direction for our lives. We also listen to each other, looking to support and challenge each other's walk of faith. As we endeavor to do so, we find ways to put God's word into action in our lives and in God's wider kingdom on earth. If you are interested in participating in this group, we meet each Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. in the Robertson Room.

WEDNESDAY NOON MEN'S GROUP: Our group meets weekly on Wednesdays at noon in the Robertson room. We are presently discussing the book *The Tyranny of Merit* by Michael Sandel. Our discussion leader is Sandy Bryson.

CAMPUS MINISTRY: Join us for Lunch and Lounge after worship. Then join us for kayaking at 1 p.m. We also meet Tuesday's at 8:00 p.m. in the College Lounge. We'll provide dinner and the discussion topic!

PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP: PCYG meets weekly for both middle school and high school! MS PCYG occurs every Wednesday from 5:30-7:30 p.m., and HS PCYG occurs every Sunday from 6:00-8:00 p.m. We enjoy dinner, youth choir, a short lesson, and games! Contact Elisha Smith for more information, esmith@thepeopleschurch.com. Our PCYG Youth Den is in need of some work! We will be painting the walls on **Sunday, October 3rd**, after the church service. Please email Elisha Smith if you are interested in helping with this project—lunch will be provided!

TOWN & GOWN: Town & Gown meets weekly on Tuesdays from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Participants may either attend in the Robertson Room or join by Zoom. To learn more about our weekly speaker, and to preview upcoming speakers, look [here](#). You can register to [attend via this link](#). Our next speaker, Dr. Stef Shuster, a professor in the Department of Sociology and Lyman Briggs College, examines the social sides of medicine, science and gender. You are invited to attend Dr. Shuster's presentation on **September 28th** in the Robertson Room or online via Zoom.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

USHERS NEEDED

We are currently seeking ushers to help with Sunday morning service and other events. If interested, please contact Paul Babbitt at paulbabbitt47@gmail.com, or 517-676-5909.

PUB THEOLOGY

Campus Ministry is excited to announce a new program. Designed for young adults ages 21-35 (or those young at heart), *Pub Theology* combines food and fellowship. Our first meeting is **tomorrow, September 27th, 7:00 p.m. at Crunchy's**.

SCOUTS BSA

Troop 2 and Crew 2 provide an educational program for youth and young adults, ages 11-21 to build character, train in the responsibilities of participatory citizenship, learn outdoor skills, and develop personal fitness. We meet on Tuesday evenings in the social hall starting at 7:30 p.m. All church and CDC COVID-19 policies, including masking, are currently being followed.

PEOPLES FORUM

The next installation of Peoples Forum will take place on **October 3rd**, with "What is that Tall Building Over There" by Tom Fehrenbach, East Lansing Development Authority, and Dave Ledebuhr, TPC Liaison. Peoples Forum will be held from 9:30-10:15 a.m. in the Robertson Room before worship.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Have you thought about joining The Peoples Church or found yourself interested in learning more about this great community of faith? We invite you to our next New Members Class on **October 3rd** at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome! Please contact one of us to register for the class:

Diane Shafer, 517-388-0437,

shafer2001@gmail.com

or

Robin Matheson, 517-290-3223,

matheso4@msu.edu.

SUNDAY PARKING

We would like to remind all members that on Sunday, all City of East Lansing parking lots are free of charge. However, the lot across Albert Ave. is reserved for **permit parking only and is not open for church parking!**



Floral Dedication

Flowers are given by Sandy & Carol Bryson in recognition of and appreciation for the ministry of Rev. Penny Swartz.



refugee development center

Today from 3-5 p.m., you are invited to attend a **Poetry Fundraiser for Lansing's Refugee Development Center**. The event is hosted by the Lansing Poetry Club and will be held at the University United Methodist Church, 1120 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI.

Covid protocols will be in place: vaccination cards (or a copy of) and masks will be required. The fundraiser will take place in the Sanctuary which normally holds 450 attendees. Ample social distancing is available.

This free event will feature local poets, musicians, a video recording of a poem by Sohrab Sepehri: "The Footsteps of Water," an update about the current refugee situation, and a photo exhibit of stories of refugees who have settled in the Lansing Area. A collection will be held during the event for the Refugee Development Center.



Floral Dedications have returned to Peoples Church! If you would like to purchase flowers for a Sunday service, please contact Elizabeth in the Church Office at eprice@thepeopleschurch.com, or 517-332-5073. Floral Dedication gifts support the Sanctuary Decoration Fund, and are always a welcome addition to our Sunday Worship services.