

# Milford Presbyterian Church

238 North Main Street, Milford, Michigan 48381

[www.milfordpc.org](http://www.milfordpc.org)

## THE MILFORD messenger

### From the Pastor

MAY 2018

A few years ago, the message board that stands outside our building right along Main Street was in a state of disrepair. The letters sat askew on the rails like rows of crooked teeth, dead bugs and debris had found permanent lodging behind the acrylic covers, and said covers were hopelessly spotted and stained by moisture buildup inside and out.

After a time, word came to me that someone had asked—after remarking on the state of our sign—if our church was still open. I remember feeling stunned that, with everything going on inside the walls of this church, someone could drive by and draw the conclusion that we might have closed up shop. We thought that our sign said, "All Are Welcome," and "Join us!" but in reality, it was communicating something altogether different.

Our facilities speak to our community. They speak of who we are and what we value. They speak of commitment: how invested are the people of this church? They speak of vitality: how active is this community of faith? They speak of welcome: what sort of person do

they want to walk through their doors?

If this is in fact true, then we have just made quite a statement. On Tuesday, April 17, we closed on the property at 210 North Main Street (formerly Klancy's) and the keys were handed over. For the first time in our church's 119 years in our current location, we have expanded our footprint.

But we have done much more than add parking.

We have made our church more welcoming. Members who hesitate to attend because of the uncertain availability of parking now have one more reason to join us on Sunday morning. Visitors will be more inclined to see what's going on now that we have made clear that there is (quite literally) a place for them.

We have added a venue for ministry. This property will be a place for youth activity (and hijinks), a staging ground for visible activity in the community, and a source of revenue to strengthen and empower the church's mission.

We have proved that we are ready, willing, and eager to see what God has in store for the church on the corner. This was a big step—truly a leap—taken with a great deal of faith (and no small amount of fear and trembling). If we're willing to trust God in this way, it stands to reason that we will be willing to trust God when we are called to reach out to our neighbors in compassionate service and faithful witness.

Our facilities say a lot about who we are. But our actions will say so much more. I am so excited to move into this new future that God has opened for us and to discover what new avenues for ministry and mission are waiting.

In Christ,



# Events & Activities

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## Wednesday Night Live

**Wednesday, May 2, 6-7:30 pm**

Come and join us for our last WNL before we take a break for the summer. As always, we will start with a delicious dinner. After dinner, we will head over to Central Park for some community beautification. Anyone that will be participating needs only to bring gloves.

## Jeannie Matson Memorial Service

**Saturday, May 5, 1 pm**

Jeannie passed away on February 6, and we will gather to remember and celebrate her, and to celebrate our new life in Christ.

## Spring Clean-up & Planting

**Saturday, May 19, 8 am**

Are you ready for summer? We are too. Come help us get the grounds and the facilities spruced up after a long winter. Bring your gardening gloves, trowels, rakes, etc. Coffee and goodies, as well as lunch, will be provided

# Music & Worship

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## Music Sunday

**Sunday, May 20**

On Sunday, May 20, we will celebrate "Music Sunday." It is a time for our congregation to recognize all of the ways that music enriches our worship. During that service we will sing, we will ring, we will lift our collective voices in praise of God thanking, him for this gift that we all possess.

## Praise Team & Kids Bells

The Praise Team and Kids Bells will rehearse on Sunday, May 6, in preparation for Music Sunday on May 20.

## Vacation Bible School

**July 23-27, 6-8 pm**

Planning is underway for VBS 2018! We will be taking kids on the adventure of a lifetime while on a "Rolling River Rampage." This year's program will be offered in the **evenings**, July 23-27, at Milford United Methodist Church. Families can enjoy dinner together from 5:15 - 6:00 pm. Then VBS will take place from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. You can register by visiting <https://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/milfordpc>



We need your help to make this year's program a success. If you are interested in serving in any capacity, please contact Kelly Carey at (248) 240-2101 or [kcarey@milfordpc.org](mailto:kcarey@milfordpc.org).

## Sunday Brunch

**Sunday, May 20, after worship**

You are invited to stay after worship and enjoy a delicious hot brunch in Fellowship Hall provided by MPC's Men's Presbyterian Association. Suggested donation is \$5 per person, \$2 for children under five, and \$10 for the whole family.

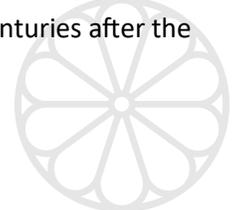
## Day of Pentecost

**Sunday, May 20**

We would like to remind those who attend church on Sunday, May 20, to **wear red** in honor of the gift of the Holy Spirit, which descended like fire upon the church.

## Ordination & Installation of Officers

May 20 will also be the day that our officers (elders and deacons) are ordained and installed to their terms of service. This is a powerful moment to witness the work of the Holy Spirit in church all these centuries after the first Christian Pentecost.



### The Main Street of Milford

Every small town has a Main Street, usually a couple blocks long with one or two traffic lights. Our Main Street starts at The Bar restaurant and ends around by the railroads tracks by Rite Aid.

The Village of Milford really started on the south side of town in the 1830s and buildings just kept on going up and heading north. I will focus on my growing up in the 1950s to the 1970s and give a small description on some of the stores and grocers and where they were located.

Folks used to drive miles to get a taste of Capes famous home-made ice cream (located where The Milford House resides today). It was made on-site and you could watch them make it through the windows. It had a huge horseshoe counter, complete with twirl-around seats. It was always a treat walking through those doors. The Cape family were as nice as they could be.

Next is the D & C Store which is now the Clothing Cove. My mom worked there the longest with 27 years of service. People still say how much they miss that store. They had a candy counter with seafoam candy, popcorn and penny candy. School supplies, crafts, yarn and even clothing could be found while walking down those squeaky wooden floors.

Now, there was a store in Milford called "Pinch A Penny." No joke! I believe it is now the Mill Valley Stores. Junk piled to the ceiling in boxes and a wooden structure made this store a hot mess. It was a fire trap waiting to happen (not at helped by the cashiers smoking in the store).

Plotzer's Meat and Grocery—a mom-and-pop grocery and butcher shop—was where Gravity is now. They were so kind when you walked in. They could be anyone's Grandma and Grandpa. They had a great candy selection. We would go up when we had some change and say we were going "Up Town" (never say "Downtown"). It was easier buying candy there because my mom could not see how much junk food I was consuming.

Breen's IGA was first where Smoke Street is today. It moved to where the Barr Fitness is now. It was very convenient for everyone to shop downtown for groceries. Everyone remembered Wilbur Johnson in his white apron who worked there forever. Jerry Breen used to let my mom take a shopping cart home every Thursday night. That was a small-town gesture for sure. It then moved to where Matti's Grocery is today by the Milford Cinema.

The Hamburger Joint was our local Show complete with bouncers with flashlights ready to kick you out. The movie was 75 cents and popcorn was 25 cents. You had to actually go through a black curtain to the Hotel next door to go to the bathroom. Really.

Now, crossing Main Street, we had Jack's Hamburgers. Today it is the Health Mart on both sides of the building. It was open 24 hours. The bar crowd would go down there and then the fights began. A little drinking and machismo usually got things started.

Tim's Red Doggie was where Palette is now. Then it moved over the tracks to its new location, now called The Red Dog. After the bar closed, patrons would race down Commerce St. and past my house. We always hoped they would make the turn at Digital Documents. All small towns need a "Cheers" bar and that was ours.

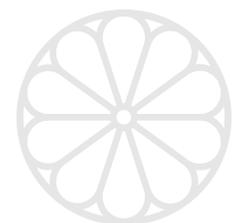
Leroy's Drugs was one of my favorite places to go. It is now the home and office of Chef Tom and Marlene Neff. It truly was an old-fashioned drugstore complete with a soda fountain with tall swivel stools to sit on. My favorite drinks were lime phosphates and chocolate Cokes. They were always served in small Coke glasses. I would buy my LP's there and go home with my favorite cheese popcorn.

The last place is closer to home, so to speak: The Pita House (kinda next store), which the church now owns, was originally the Flame restaurant which was a chain. It has had the same owner since 1972. Back in the day, it was a horse livery which caught fire and—sadly—13 horses perished. It was also at different times a foundry and a nursery. For many years it was a successful restaurant called Klancy's. It did a brisk business when we used to have three services on Sunday morning. Lots of ideas going around what we can use the parking lot for besides parking. Church events, youth car washes and parking fees for Milford happenings to name a few.

A big MPC thanks to David Williams, Rhett Rowe and Harold Swenson for this massive endeavor. Being on Session, I know how much time and work they all put into it. As Katie Burley would say: "Gooooood Job!" A big shout out to Session members who put in a lot of time finalizing the deal.

As a kid, you don't always appreciate what a small town has to offer. It's only later in life that you look back and you get it.

Sandi Muirhead  
MPC Historian



# Community Notes

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## In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Kim Seagraves, Larry and Pat Teal, Tammy Baker, Christopher Cooper, Alana Hoefl, Janette Gabel, David & Barb Burtch, Liam Klagges, Bill & Linda Baden, Joy Ballard, Steve Baker, Sean McMullen, Jim Burley, Marty Martin, Sam Carollo, Chrissi & Jerry Emerick, Beaman Smith, Chris Beebee, Marie Webster, Tom Reynolds, Roger Voorheis, Barbara Good, George Wootton, Mary Weisheit, Jim Morrow, Mary Lou Gharrity, Pat Oman, Larry Cepruen, David Renny, Dorothy Bonnell-Tracy, Eddie Bahan, Chelsea Heron, Tom Neff, Irene John, Adam LaPratt, Ted Rancont and all military personnel of our congregation.

### Service persons of our congregation:

- Sgt. Maj. M.A. McClenahan
- AP2 Kevin Warford
- Cpl. Rebecca Whitworth
- Senior Chief Renata Wilcox Adams

***Please call the church office if you wish to renew or add someone to our Prayer List.***

## Building Updates

### **[milfordpc.org/building](http://milfordpc.org/building)**

Visit this page on our website to get the latest information about our efforts to improve our facilities.

## An Update from Marie Webster

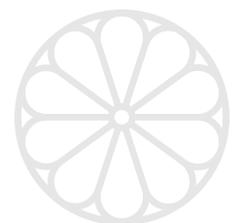
Marie has a new address! She has moved to Tucson, AZ to be closer to her daughter, Cheryl. We will all miss her, but we can send her a card to say "Hello." Marie is at Brookdale East, 8468 E. Speedway, Tucson, AZ 85710. Marie (520-722-7950) Daughter, Cheryl (520-579-8890).

## Everyone Eats

### **Wednesday, May 23**

Everyone is invited and encouraged to select a day this year to serve as a helper at the Everyone Eats lunch program at Spirit of Hope Church in Detroit. Our dates to serve in 2018 are: May 23, June 27, July 25, August 22, September 26, October 24 & 31, November 21 & 28, and December 19 & 26.

Sign up sheets are on the office windows. We are in need of 8-10 volunteers and 12 dozen cookies for each scheduled date. Volunteers meet at the Liberty door entrance of the church at 9:00 am to load supplies and carpool to Detroit. Cookies may be delivered to the MPC kitchen on the Sunday before or before 9:00 am on the dates we go to SOH. We look forward to seeing many new faces joining us.



# Session Report

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At its stated meeting on Tuesday, March 20, the session took the following actions:

- reviewed the church membership (total membership as of April 17 is 466);
- approved the budget for the 2018-2019 fiscal year;
- after examination, upheld the election of new officers; and
- selected Sunday, May 20, as the day for officers to be ordained and installed in worship.

The next stated session meeting is Tuesday, May 15, at 7:00 pm.

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## This 'n' That

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### Chancel Flowers

If you would like to purchase flowers for the chancel in honor or memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special event, forms are located in the narthex. You can also complete the form online at [milfordpc.org/forms](http://milfordpc.org/forms).

### Izzard Memorial Garden

Niches are available for members and their immediate family in the Izzard Memorial Garden. If you are interested in more information, contact Hanne Bishop at (248) 882-4415 or [haneloreetb@gmail.com](mailto:haneloreetb@gmail.com).

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## Thank You!

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Dear Church Family:

I can not tell you enough how much Joe and I have enjoyed the wonderful Meal Train. What great cooks we have in our midst. Also, thank you for the wonderful cards, phone calls, visits in the hospital and at home as well as rides to chemo. Thanks again, God Is Good!

Blessings,  
**Hanne and Joe Bishop**

Many thanks and blessings to all those who helped at our home sight for Rebuilding Together Oakland County event on Saturday, April 28. The family very much appreciates the many improvements made by all participants. Special thank yous to Jack Baker and Mark Sacher for serving as the team leaders for MPC involvement in Rebuilding Together Oakland County.

### Our Blood Drive was a SUCCESS! 37 Units

Thank you to everyone who came to the Blood Drive on such a beautiful day. A special "Thank You" to Dianna Speier, Sandy Cole, and Summer Rowe for their help. Could not have done it without them.

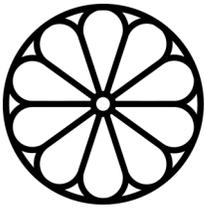
**Barb Klein**

### Everyone Eats Thank You

Thank You to Mike Nave, Leslie Nave, Chuck Cardinale, Jon McLeod, Bob Parrett, Debi Parrett, and Sandi Muirhead for helping serve lunch at Spirit of Hope Church on Wednesday, April 25. Clients were served open face sloppy joes, tater tots, cole slaw, corn, fruit cocktail, cookies and punch. Thank you to Ginny O'Brien for ordering and picking up the food and Sandra Cole and Ginny O'Brien for the cookies.

Thanks and blessings,  
**Virginia Mantela**





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*"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news!"*

Isaiah 52:7

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## Staff & Contact

### **Bryant Anderson, Pastor**

banderson@milfordpc.org

### **Kelly Carey, Sunday School Coordinator**

kcarey@milfordpc.org

### **Marcus LaPratt, Music Director**

mlapratt@milfordpc.org

### **Marcus LaPratt, Youth Director**

### **Rick Moore, Organist**

### **Lisa Nathan, Office Administrator**

lnathan@milfordpc.org

### **Dianna Speier Wedding Coordinator**

diannaspeier@comcast.net

### **Harold Swenson, Treasurer**

hswenson@milfordpc.org

**Office Hours:** Tu - Fr, 9 am -2 pm

**Phone:** 248.684.2805

**Email:** admin@milfordpc.org

**Web:** www.milfordpc.org

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/milfordpc



## Dates to Remember

### **May 5**

Memorial Service for Jeannie Matson, 1 pm

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### **May 13**

Mother's Day

Confirmation Sunday

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### **May 19**

Spring Clean-up

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### **May 20**

Music Sunday

Sunday Brunch

Day of Pentecost (wear red!)

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### **June 9**

Memorial Service for Billie McLeod

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