



THE MILFORD
messenger

From the Pastor

AUGUST 2018

Beginning on June 16, commissioners from our denomination's 173 presbyteries came together in St. Louis for the 223rd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The General Assembly (henceforth, GA) meets every two years in a different U.S. city in order to conduct the business of the national church. This business includes addressing possible changes to our church's constitution as well as the establishment of policies and priorities for the denomination as a whole. With broad strokes, I want to summarize some of the marquee actions that the GA has taken on behalf of the church.

The very first action taken by any GA is to elect a Moderator. Over the course of the week-long meeting, the Moderator (along with the Vice- or Co-Moderator) moderates the whole-group sessions. Perhaps more importantly, during the two years until the next GA, the Moderator visits presbyteries and churches around the country and works to strengthen the life and witness of the denomination as a whole. This year, the GA elected Co-Moderators

Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri (a ruling elder from Florida) and the Rev. Cindy Kohlmann (a minister from New England).

One of the most highly anticipated questions leading into GA was whether the assembly would adopt a proposal to divest denominational funds from fossil fuel companies. By a wide margin this proposal was defeated; the assembly chose instead to maintain our investments, keep a seat at the table (so to speak), and continue engaging with corporations to try to influence their practices toward greater environmental sustainability.

At the 222nd GA (2016), the assembly appointed a special commission called The Way Forward Commission to investigate a broad range of issues facing the PC(USA), both related to its ministry and its internal functioning. The commission made its report to the 223rd GA, and its recommendations were approved. Some of these recommendations are to strengthen the role of the Stated Clerk in the operations of the various bodies of the denomination, to authorize a

review of the PC(USA)'s financial sustainability, and to endorse a plan to improve transparency in denominational operations. An implementation team was established to ensure follow-through on this report.

At every GA, actions are taken that can broadly be called "public witness." These are actions and resolutions that pertain to pressing social or political issues on which the church feels it must speak or act. The opening worship service of the GA brought in a collection of \$54,000, which was quite literally marched to the St. Louis Justice Center, where it was given as a donation to an organization that bails low-level offenders out of jail and works to fight the injustices of the cash bail system. The GA passed a resolution calling for an end to the use of capital punishment in the United States, and another calling for the federal government to end family separations at the U.S.-Mexico border and to immediately reunite those who had been separated.

One of the more important tasks of the GA is to make changes to the PC

Reimagine the Possibilities

Sunday, August 5 & Monday, August 6

The world changes fast, presenting the church with new challenges and new opportunities for fruitful ministry. In order to remain faithful to the call that God has placed on us as a community of faith, we are taking a fresh look at who we are today as a church and who God is calling us to be. We are undergoing a process that we are calling "Reimagine the Possibilities," and we need you to be a part of this process. Specifically, we need all of our members to do two things:

1. Be praying regularly and earnestly for our congregation. Watch our weekly eNews emails for specific areas of our church's life for which we can be in prayer together.
2. Participate in the **Reimagine Workshops**. We held one workshop in July and the second workshop dates are listed below. We hope you will be able to participate. They are offered at multiple times so that you can choose the one that best suits your schedule.

Workshop 2: Where Do We Go from Here?

- Sunday, August 5, 11:30 - 1:00
- Sunday, August 5, 6:30 - 8:00
- Monday, August 6, 6:30 - 8:00

Thank you in advance for your willingness to join us in this undertaking. This process will help us sharpen our understanding of who we are as a congregation, and where God might be calling us in the future.

Fuse Presents *Godspell*

August 3, 4 & 5

Love one another and be loved! This Rock 'N Roll musical is not to be missed - featuring some of Metro Detroit's top talent! Three chances to see this show - August 3 & 4, 2018 @ 7:30pm, August 5, 2018 @ 2pm.

Everyone Eats Needs You

Wednesday, August 22

We invite you to join us as we prepare and serve lunch to clients at "Everyone Eats" at Spirit of Hope Church in Detroit. We need helpers to travel with us the fourth Wednesday of each month (August 22, September 26, October 24th & 31st, November 21st & 28th, and December 19th and 26th). We meet at the church at 9:00 a.m. to load the food and then carpool to "Everyone Eats". We also need 14 dozen cookies for each of these dates. Sign-up sheets are on the church office windows. Please select a date or two to help out. Remember many hands make less work for all. If you have questions contact Virginia Mantela at vae.piemaker@gmail.com or 810-388-8168.



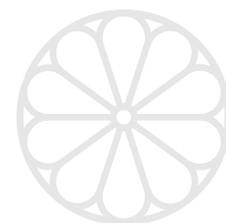
Our group at "Everyone Eats"

Blood Drive

Monday, October 1

The Church on the Corner has a Blood Drive scheduled for Monday, Oct. 1.

We are ready to schedule your appointment at redcrossblood.org or contact Barb Klein at bklein.2@comcast.net.



...CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

(USA)'s constitution—both The Book of Order and The Book of Confessions. There were few significant actions taken in this arena this year, but one is worth mentioning. The process was begun to consider a new addition to The Book of Confessions: Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Letter from Birmingham City Jail." This will likely be considered for approval at the next GA in 2020, but would then require the approval of a majority of presbyteries.

Finally, there was a great deal of discussion about whether and how to provide family leave to church workers. The denomination currently does not have a clear policy for presbyteries or churches for when church workers require extended family leave (at the birth of a

child, for instance). A task force will study this issue (and its financial implications) further and report back to GA in 2020.

The next GA will meet in Baltimore, Maryland, in June 2020.

In Christ,



This 'n' That

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.

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 (248-882-4415 | hanneloreetb@gmail.com).

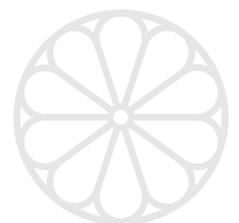
Retirement Giving Option

If you must take a "Required Minimum Distribution" (RMD) from your retirement plan, you might want to consider making a "Qualified Charitable Contribution" directly from the plan. With the tax change this year, it may be more advantageous than in the past. **Check with your tax preparer.**

Building Updates

milfordpc.org/building

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



Community Notes

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Kim Seagraves, Larry and Pat Teal, Tammy Baker, Christopher Cooper, Alana Hoeft, 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, Jim Morrow, Mary Lou Gharrity, Pat Oman, Larry Cepuran, David Renny, Dorothy Bonnell-Tracy, Eddie Bahan, Chelsea Heron, Tom Neff, Irene John, Adam LaPratt, Ted Rancont Joanne Hansen, and all military personnel of our congregation.

Service persons of our congregation:

- Sgt. Maj. M.A. McClenahan
- AP2 Kevin Warford
- Cpl. Rebecca Whitworth

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

MPW "INGATHERING"

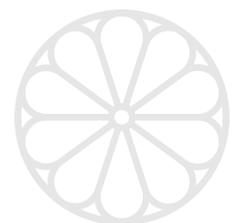
Listed below are the items Milford Presbyterian Women have been assigned to gather as our contribution to the 2018 Presbyterian Women of the Detroit Presbytery fall "Together in Service" Ingathering. Items collected are for distribution to agencies that help homeless and/or less fortunate men, women, children, and families throughout the Presbytery of Detroit. Watch for items on sale and set them aside to put into a bin that will be placed in Fellowship Hall in mid-August.

- 1 Men's size XL sweatshirt
- 2 pkg size S women's underwear
- 1 Men's size XL sweat pants
- 2 pkg size M men's underwear
- 2 Women's size L sweatshirts
- 4 pkg size S Girl's underwear
- 1 women's size L sweat pants
- 2 pkg size L Boy's underwear
- 2 Boy's size M sweatshirts
- 2 pkg Women's socks

- 2 boys size M pants
- 2 pkg Men's socks
- 2 Girl's size S sweatshirts
- 2 pkg Girl's socks
- 2 Girl's size M pants
- 2 pkg Boy's socks
- 1 size 3T toddler outfit
- 2 bath towel and washcloth sets
- 2 Women's hat & mittens
- 1 Men's hat & mittens
- 1 Girl's hat & mittens
- 1 Boy's hat & mittens
- 1 twin size quilt or comforter
- 2 full size quilts or comforters
- 1 twin size sheet set
- 4 baby receiving blankets
- 1 baby formula, can powder
- 2 pkg disposable diapers
- 2 baby wipes
- 1 Boy's size S navy or black pants
- 1 Girl's size M navy or black pants
- 1 backpack
- 2 Children's Bibles (New International Reader's Version)
- 2 Children's or infant's toys, books, games (no stuffed animals)

Czapski Kitchen

Enjoy the homemade offerings of "Czapski Kitchen" which formally opened on July 2nd! Hours are Tuesday - Saturday 11a-8p.



Everyone Eats Thank You

Thank you to Mike Nave, Leslie Nave, Dan Lafferty, Gayle Lafferty, Cheryl Perrine, Madeline Colone, Bob Parrett, Debi Parrett, Fletcher Smith, and Sandi Muirhead for helping to serve lunch for “Everyone Eats” at Spirit of Hope Church on Wednesday, July 25th. Clients were served beans and hot dogs, macaroni salad, fruit, chips, cookies, and punch. Thank you to Sandi Muirhead for ordering and picking up the food. Thanks also to Judy Ganzel, Isle Mitchel, Madeline Colone, and Jeannie Koresky for providing cookies.

Thanks and blessings,
Virginia Mantela

Thank you to all VBS Volunteers!

We had an amazing adventure with God as we went on a Rolling River Rampage with over 40 kids from our community during the week of July 23-27. We couldn't have done it without all of the volunteers (over 60 in all) who donated their time and God-given talents to make this week so successful. To all of you, I am so incredibly grateful.

Kelly Carey,
Sunday School Coordinator

Thank you MPC

The Brotherly Love Truck Ministry for the Homeless wishes to thank the MPC congregation again for the donation to our ministry. We have been busy this summer with various events with several different organizations. In June we sponsored our annual Core City Give Away which included a picnic lunch, free giveaway items, free raffle prizes and a huge free yard sale. In July we provided and served dinner to the

congregation of the Second Chance Ministries, a church for homeless people in Detroit. We provide bingo every month at the NSO homeless shelter and will be sponsoring a “Brotherly Love Day” at the shelter on August 1st. This event will include a dinner, raffle prizes, giveaways, dance contests and singing competition. Your generous donation is greatly appreciated as we continue on with our busy summer activities.

Blessings,
Susan Linn and Dave Muirhead

Daniel's Kitchen Thank You

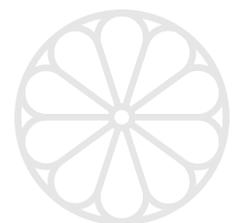
On behalf of the Daniel's Kitchen project in Edmore, Michigan, we would like to thank the Milford Presbyterian Church for the kitchen plates, saucers, mugs, and other items sent our way. We are working to open a healthy restaurant in Edmore which, in addition to offering health-promoting options, will also be a place where those who are in need can eat with respect and dignity whether they have the means or not.

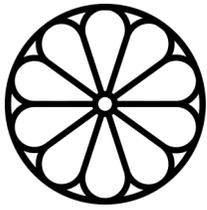
The name of our project, Daniel's Kitchen, was based on the story of the prophet Daniel as told in Daniel chapter one. We are planning to serve soups, sandwiches, wraps, salads, etc. There is a short video that tells about the project at danielskitchen.org.

Once again, thank you for your generosity, and may God bless your ministry there in Milford.

Very sincerely yours,

Cari Haus
Daniel's Kitchen, Committee Chair





Milford Presbyterian Church

238 North Main Street
Milford, Michigan 48381
www.milfordpc.org

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Return Service Requested
Time Value

“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news!”

Isaiah 52:7

Staff & Contact

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Kelly Carey, Sunday School Coordinator

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Marcus LaPratt, Music Director

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Marcus LaPratt, Youth Director

Rick Moore, Organist

Lisa Nathan, Office Administrator

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Dianna Speier Wedding Coordinator

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Harold Swenson, Treasurer

hswenson@milfordpc.org

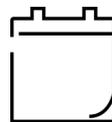
Office Hours: Tu - Fr, 9 am -2 pm

Phone: 248.684.2805

Email: admin@milfordpc.org

Web: www.milfordpc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/milfordpc



Dates to Remember

August 3, 4 & 5

Fuse Theatre Group presents *Godspell*, Thursday & Friday,

August 5 & 6

Reimagine the Possibilities, Sunday, 11:30a & 6:30p and
Monday, 6:30p

August 10

Office Closed, Milford Memories

August 12

Service at Milford United Methodist Church, 10a
