



FPC Herald

October 2026



Office Hours

Tuesday: 9am -2pm
Wednesday: 10am -3pm
Thursday: 10am -3pm
Friday: 9am-2pm

4 Sunday In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary or Watch Live Online, 10am

6 Mission Committee Meeting, 6pm
Worship and Music Meeting, 7pm

11 Sunday In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary or Watch Live Online, 10am

13 Deacon Meeting, 7pm

18 In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary or Watch Live Online, 10am
Friends of FPC Concert, 3pm

20 Session Meeting, 7pm

23 Bool Bash, 7pm

25 In-Person Sunday Worship in the Fellowship Hall or Watch Live Online, 10am

They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus. Mark 2:4 (NLT)



Dear Friends,

I am now in my fifth year as Pastor of this congregation. In many ways, I am excited about this next year. I say this because it is time for us to dream about where this church wants to be in five or ten years from now.

During the last four years, we have provided stability and restored community amongst our members and friends. There are new people coming to the church. And when I check statistics, we are above average compared to churches in our presbytery, yet this can change at any time. Therefore, we need to dream, dare, and disrupt if need be.

Consider the scripture cited above. Some friends wanted to bring a paralyzed man to Jesus for healing, but the crowd blocked the doorway. Refusing to give up, they found another way: They opened a hole in the roof and lowered him directly in front of Jesus. Their actions showed a willingness to take risks, think creatively, and conduct a plan that might fail to help their friend.

In the book, [*Dream, Dare, Disrupt*](#), the author writes, "It begins with the conviction that curiosity is not a liability, but a spiritual gift, that dreaming is not childish but courageous, and that disruption is not destruction but renewal."

We understand the concept of dreaming and even daring to do something different. It is the word "disruption" that may give us pause, because we are experiencing a level of comfort. I talk to people who used to come to this church, and when they come for a visit, I can see their brains whirling with the memories of their time here. Often, I take young adults on a walk along the second floor to look for their work camp shirts. And they are pleasantly surprised when they find the shirts they wore when they were teenagers.

Yet, there is always room for improvement and growth. In the Presbyterian Church, we are called to grow the church deep and wide. Grow deep in our faith, and wide in our reach. In Romans 8, the apostle Paul writes:

"For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory." (8:22-23)

There are always new ways to empower us provide an effective ministry that brings more people to Jesus Christ. It is the Holy Spirit who frees us from whatever may be paralyzing us so that we can be Christ's witnesses here in our community. This is our time to dream, to consider who we are and what we want for our church going forward. So, start dreaming, daring, and yes even willing to disrupt so that we can be the church that Jesus needs us to be now and into the future.

I thank God for you,
Pastor Kathy Nealand

Mark Your Calendars



October 23 is our annual Boo Bash!

Bring the family for games, crafts, a costume contest, a haunted hallway, and of course candy! The fun begins at 7pm.

Kick-off Concert on October 18th, 3pm

Come join us for the kick-off to our concert series with 'Friend of FPC' featuring our talented musicians and their friends. Come hear a variety of musical styles and instruments from classical to Broadway to bluegrass. A free-will offering will be taken.

Presbytery of Detroit

Church Safety & Security Training

Led by:
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

This training is ideal for people who work on or with the church building, including ushers, greeters, church staff, elders, deacons, custodians, and committee members.

Whether using the link or QR Code, please page down until you see this event.



Scan me!

Saturday, November 14, 2026
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church
168 Cass Avenue, Mt. Clemens, MI

Training Includes:

Hands On Training Experience Covering How To:

- Protect against adversarial events
- Prevent, mitigate, respond and recover from them
- Form a Safety Team
- Develop simple and appropriate safety plans through handouts and case studies.
- Communicate with their congregations

Attendees will leave with:

- High level outline for a security plan for their facility
- Templates and resources for implementation
- Achievable action items to enhance safety and security within a faith-based framework centered on hope and welcome

Register today with the QR code, visit our website at [PDA.org](https://www.pda.org)
Page down until you see this event.
Or call our office at 586-465-0461 to register.

We will be hosting a Church Safety and Security Training Workshop on Saturday November 14th. If you are interested in attending, please see the flyer below and click the button to register.

Celebrating Membership

Below is a list of current members who have joined our church in October's past.

Beth Deuel 10/29/1978
Kathy Donohue 10/23/1994
Pam Kurtz 10/28/2001
Judy Landuyt 10/19/1997
Mary Marino-Bratke 10/21/2014
Jerrilyn Portlance 10/21/2014
Steven Thebo 10/26/2025



September Attendance

In person:	Live Stream:
September 6- 59	22
September 13- 67	10
September 20 - 61	16
September 27 - 50	13



Our Service Men & Women

Stephanie Dixon, Army
Crestview FL

Michelle Dixon, Army
Colorado

Ashley Dixon, Army
Puerto Rico
Daughters of Glenn and Pam Dixon

Sam Heaton, ANG
On Deployment
Son of Pastor Dan and Kim Heaton

Sean Heffernan, CG
Grandson of Sue Heffernan

Prayer List

Please keep the people listed in your daily thoughts, and remember them with a card, phone call and prayers of encouragement.

Assisted Living or Long-Term Care

Irma Black
Mary Murphy

Those we are keeping in Our Prayers

Mike Ethier
Pam Kurtz
Martha Fisher
Gary Cynowa
Loretta Martin
Lou Emerick
Nancy Ventimiglia
Claren Bannow
Jeanne Ledingham

October Birthdays



8	Patricia Lange
10	Alex Landuyt
11	Quinn Gasparovich
12	Ann Guldemon
12	Bill Herhlan
12	Jim Lauer
15	Gary Cynowa
18	Ellen Ormsby
18	Karen Wilson
21	Lou Emerick
21	Stephanie Dixon
22	John Nealand
29	Sam Heaton
31	Gabrielle McHugh

Weekly Announcements

Sunday Worship Details

In-Person Worship and Live-Streamed Services on Sundays at 10am. To watch online, key in fpcmtclemens.com, click the worship tab, then live stream.



Don't forget our weekly events:

- Youth Groups, Sundays, 6pm
- Quilting Group Monday Mornings, 10am
- Kids Thursday Night Program, 5pm
- Chancel Bells, Thursdays 6pm
- Chancel Choir, Thursdays 7pm

For more information about any of these, contact the office



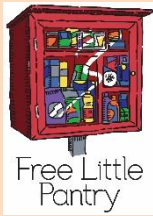
World Communion Sunday Offering

The first Sunday in October is World Communion Sunday. The Presbyterian Church collects a special offering called the Peace and Global Witness offering on that day. The offering goes to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and across the world. Envelopes will be available for those who wish to donate this Sunday and next Sunday.



Every Friday!!

Every Friday morning, the men of FPC get together in the parlor to talk about what's happening in the church, what's going on in their lives, and solve the world's problems. Other church men are welcomed to join them at nine!



Our Free Little Pantry is always in need of restocking! You can help by donating food, toiletries, even socks are needed. For food donations please bring items that do not need extra ingredients and are easy to open. Many of those who are blessed by this food do not have access to can openers and extra ingredients.

Our Free Pantry was built and decorated by our wonderful youth and kids. There is a box located by the north door where you can drop off your donations



Stay in the know on what's happening

To see events happening in the church and Family life center, you can view the Church Calendar via our website, or by clicking the tab below. If you have any questions, contact the office at 586-465-0461, or email office@fpcmtclemons.com.



Our Church Elders



Our Church Deacons

Session Class of 2026

- Mike Ball, Building, Property & Technology
- Martha Fisher, Personnel
- Patty Lange, Memorial
- Kenny Jung, Worship & Music

Session Class of 2027

- Becky Ball, Worship and Music
- Gary Cynowa, Mission
- Ken Schmidt, Finance

Session Class of 2028

- Kristen Abouelseoud, CE
- Barb Jung, CE
- Steven Thebo, Technology

Clerk of Session: Jane Ethier

Deacon Class of 2026

- Pam Kurtz
- Kyra Hickey
- Beth Orrin

Deacon Class of 2027

- Judi Armstrong
- Gloria Cynowa
- Evelyn McKenzie

Deacon Class of 2028

- Mary Jane Marino-Bratke
- Diana Lozen
- Jay Lozen

Deacon Moderators

- Beth Orrin
- Judi Armstrong