

# Growing the Family of God

Telling the Story

Serving the Community

Nurturing Believers

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## *Then he went home*

*Coffee with Jim*



Mark records that after Jesus selected the twelve disciples he went home. (Mark 3:19). Home for Jesus was the little town of Capernaum, a fishing village located on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee. It had a population of about 1,500.

When I was a youngster, I remember asking my mother, “Do we have a church home?” It was a phrase I’d heard in church and wasn’t quite sure what it meant. She quickly assured me we indeed had a church home.

Over the years I have learned the incredible value of having a church home and family. The church family gathers round us to celebrate marriages, births, and baptisms. It is the church family that holds us tenderly in moments of pain and sorrow.

We are blessed to have a beautiful church family which knows how to pray and love and support. As the years have passed many of those who nurtured our faith and supported us have gone home. Others have moved, joined other communities of faith, or simply slipped away.

On November 21 we are inviting all of those family members who have been away to come home. We are not proselytizing. If you belong to another church, we celebrate with you the joy you have in your faith community. We are encouraging everyone who has stepped away from the family to come home for the day.

You are encouraged to join us for worship at 10:00 am, followed by a catered lunch at noon. At 2:00 pm we will be treated to a concert by singer/songwriter Ken Medema. It is going to be a wonderful opportunity to renew friendships and perhaps make a new acquaintance. Details are available on the church website [www.fbcpontiac.org](http://www.fbcpontiac.org).

Jesus needed a home. Matthew states, He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, (Matthew 4:13). If you don’t have a church home, you’re welcome here. If you’ve moved

## From the Pastor (cont.)

or simply dropped out, you're invited to come home.

In my life church was always the center of social as well as religious activities. Every wedding was a church wedding-all were included. When there was a death in the family-we all went to the service. Being family means being joined together with bonds of love and commitment that cannot be severed by time or distance.

Everyone needs family. If you love your church, encourage those who have drifted away to come home.

*Thanksgiving Homecoming*

*Come Home-Find a Home*

*Jim*

## Christmas Shopping Got You Stressed?



Donations to the church and her specific ministries can make wonderful gifts for those hard to shop for people on your gift lists! Have a hard to buy for friend with a heart for children? Make a donation on their behalf to the ABK or ABY programs. A relative with too many gadgets and a heart for helping the needy? A donation in their name to the Food Pantry or Jubilee Christmas might be the perfect gift. Christmas is coming faster than you think and this is a perfect way to mark those names off your Christmas list! You can even make your donation by going to our website and utilizing our on-line giving option.

When you make a gift donation to the church in a loved one's name the church will acknowledge your gift by sending a lovely thank you note letting your loved one know of the gift you made on their behalf.

If you would like to honor a friend or family member by making a gift to the church, please be sure to include the person's name and address as well as the specific ministry to which you'd like your gift applied.

## Board of Ministries

The Board of Ministries met on Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

**Diaconate:** Planning to send cards and possibly flowers to shut-ins for Christmas.

**Children's Ministries:** All children's programming has resumed with an average attendance of 6 children during ABK.

**Fellowship:** Average attendance in Sunday Morning Connections has been 34. The food pantry served 35 families representing 105 individuals. We served 80 people at the meal following the outdoor service.

**Moderator:** Mark Eppel is still having issues getting supplies and workers to work on our parking lot. He is hopeful that the issues will be resolved and he will be able to begin work before winter.

**Associate Pastor:** We appreciate the help of our volunteers during our Friday night open gym and other activities. We're averaging 4 high school students on Wednesday nights and 6 junior high students.

**Senior Pastor:** Wednesday open prayer time is still going well. Jubilee Christmas will be hosted this year by the First Presbyterian Church on December 11th. A Congregational meeting will be scheduled for Sunday, December 12th immediately following morning worship.

### Important Reminder

If you feel ill, have any symptoms of Covid-19, or have been exposed to the virus, please worship with us via YouTube and rejoin us in person when you are recovered or have completed appropriate quarantine. Let's keep everyone safe and healthy!

### Daylight Saving Time



Just a reminder that Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 am on Sunday, November 7th so don't forget to change your clocks back before going to bed on Saturday night!



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Tara Crawford
- 1 Ken and Sheila Ferguson
- 2 Taylor Lind
- 2 Ed Rich
- 2 Nancy Waschle
- 3 Sarah Matheisen
- 5 Sandy Bailey
- 5 Emma Chehak
- 5 Jim Dixon
- 6 Mel and Christina Beck
- 7 Leon and Louise Gray
- 8 Daniel and Lindsey Flessner
- 10 Lynn Battice
- 11 Delores Burton
- 12 Natalie Taylor
- 13 Kassondra Poshard
- 15 Gayle McBeath
- 19 Rhonda Cowsert
- 20 Charoletta Bergin
- 21 Barbara Highland
- 22 Mary Frobish
- 23 Bill Stith
- 27 Andrea Newsome
- 29 Mark Levin
- 30 Chery Spires



# Nov

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
	1	2
<b>7</b> DST Ends 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	8	9 6:00 pm Healing Hearts
<b>14</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	15	16
<b>21</b> Thanksgiving Homecoming 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 12:00 Noon Dinner 2:00 pm Ken Medema	22	23
<b>28</b> 1st Sun. in Advent 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	29	30



# ember



## Wednesday

## Thursday

## Friday

## Saturday

**3**

9:00 am ROMEO Club  
9:00 am Ruth Circle  
10:30 am Prayer Meeting  
1:00 pm Esther Circle  
6:00 pm Jr. ABY  
6:00 pm ABK  
7:00 pm Prayer Meeting

**4****5**

6:30 pm - 9:00 pm HS Open  
Gym

**6****10**

9:00 am ROMEO Club  
10:30 am Prayer Meeting  
6:00 pm Jr. ABY  
6:00 pm ABK  
7:00 pm Prayer Meeting

**11** Veteran's Day

7:00 pm Board of Ministries

**12**

6:30 pm - 9:00 pm HS Open  
Gym

**13****17**

9:00 am ROMEO Club  
10:30 am Prayer Meeting  
6:00 pm Jr. ABY  
6:00 pm ABK  
7:00 pm Prayer Meeting

**18****19** Newsletter Deadline

6:30 pm - 9:00 pm HS Open  
Gym

**20****24**

9:00 am ROMEO Club  
10:30 am Prayer Meeting  
No evening activities

**25** Thanksgiving**26****27**

## Jubilee Christmas



It's beginning to look a lot like Jubilee Christmas! For those of you who are not familiar with our Jubilee Christmas program, it is an outreach ministry that helps provide a Christmas celebration to children and families who may otherwise be unable to afford one.

This year's Jubilee Christmas event will be hosted by First Presbyterian Church on Saturday, December 11th. If you'd like to help support this amazingly festive ministry, you may make a donation by marking your check 'Jubilee Christmas' and dropping it in the offering plate or you can donate your time and energy volunteering at the event. We'll need hosts, wrappers, loaders, and people to set up and bake cookies, etc. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Barb Tholen. This is a great way to give back and share the joy of Jesus during the holiday season so make your plans to help now!

## Winter Weather



A reminder as we make our way into a season of unpredictable winter weather, if Pontiac schools are closed or close early due to inclement weather, all church activities scheduled for that day will also be cancelled.

To the best of our ability, church cancellation notices will be broadcast on WEEK, WCIA, and posted to our Facebook page.

*We encourage everyone to use their best judgment and be safe during hazardous weather!*

## Office Notes



In honor of the Thanksgiving Day holiday, there will be no evening activities on Wednesday, November 24th and our church office will be closed on Thursday, November 25th and Friday, November 26th.

*We wish our entire church family a happy and healthy holiday weekend!*

## Newsletter Deadline



All articles for inclusion the December edition of our church newsletter must be submitted to the church office no later than Friday, November 19th. You may submit your articles by phone (842.4321), fax (844.6943), by e-mail (Rhonda@fbcpontiac.org) or by leaving them in the black box outside the church office door.

## On-Line Giving



With on-line giving, it's easier than ever to tithe or make donations to special fundraising campaigns like this month's One Great Hour of Sharing offering!

To make an on-line donation, simply visit our website [www.fbcpontiac.org](http://www.fbcpontiac.org) and follow the donation link near the top of the page. Our on-line giving is powered through PayPal and allows you to use an existing PayPal account or any debit or credit card you'd like. You'll have the opportunity to leave specific notes about your donation and you'll receive a donation receipt in your e-mail!

## Visit Us on the Web!



As we transition back into a regular fall schedule, please remember to visit our website ([fbcpontiac.org](http://fbcpontiac.org)) and social media pages for the latest scheduling information. While there, you will also have the opportunity to watch recent worship services, check the church activity calendar, or browse our picture gallery and see just what we've been up to lately here at FBC!



**Prayer Chain  
Number**

**815.419.4454**

If you wish to receive prayer chain calls, please contact the church office at 815.842.4321 and request that your name and number be added to the list.



*Happy*



*Thanksgiving*



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