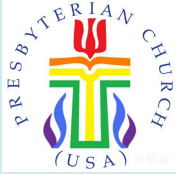


May 8, 2026

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWLETTER



120 N. Front Street, Marquette MI 49855 PH: 226-6587

**Email:** firstpresbyterianmqt@gmail.com **Website:** firstpresbyterianmarquette.com

**Church Office Hours:** Monday - Thursday: 10am - 3pm

**Pastor:** Reverend Natalie Handley, M.Div.

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - MAY 10, 2026

**WORSHIP SERVICE - 10:00 a.m.**

SERMON: Called to Your Side  
Rev. Natalie Handley  
Liturgist: Connie Kuzak  
Click [HERE](#) to see the bulletin!



**THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY ON MAY 10** are given in gratitude for our treasured sister-in-Christ Mary Ellen Eckler (1932-2026) and our wondrous Deacons, especially Connie & Mike Kuzak - *from the Rachel and Rebecca bible study circles.*

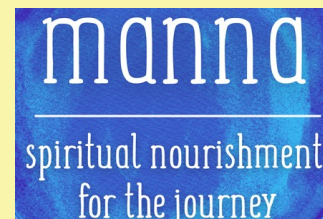


Sadly, long-time member William Charles "Bill" Smyth passed away on April 30. Honoring Bill's wishes, no public service will be held. Fassbender Swanson Hansen Funeral Home is serving the family.

Long-time member Mary Ellen Eckler also passed away, on May 3. No funeral service will be held. Fassbender Swanson Hansen Funeral Home is serving the family.

### **MANNA WORSHIP SERVICE and COMMUNITY DINNER**

Join us on **May 10 at 4:30 pm** for a modern and informal style worship. It is followed by a free **community dinner at 5:30 pm**. Bring your friends and neighbors!



### **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

The Worship Committee requests your feedback in three areas: the 10am service, the monthly Manna service, and our livestream worship. Please use the below QR code to fill out the brief questionnaire. You may also find printed surveys near the entrances which should be submitted in the black box by the office. Thank you for your input as we seek to plan meaningful worship experiences.



**THE YOUTH MISSION GROUP** is selling Little Caesars Pizza kits May 10-17 to help fund the 2026 Youth Mission Trip! Please consider buying pizza or make a donation directly to the Mission trip. See Lynnea Hosey or any youth to purchase.

**RACHEL CIRCLE** meets Tuesday, May 12 at 10:00 a.m. in the parlors.

**REBECCA CIRCLE** meets Thursday, May 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the parlors.

**THE MARQUETTE MALE CHORUS** will present "Stage and Screen" on May 15 at 7:30pm at Messiah Lutheran Church, 305 W. Magnetic St, Marquette. Musical favorites from stage musicals and film scores. Highlights: selected songs from "Les Miserables", "Anyone Can Whistle", "Gypsy", and "Wicked". Suggested donation of \$10 at door. For more info. call 458-0200.



**Superior Handbells Concert - May 17, 3:00 p.m.**

**Joy and Elation:** Joy and elation are very contagious states of mind. We share this music as an expression of our hope for the world. Joy and elation come in many forms, sometimes silly, sometimes serious, But always a celebration that bubbles into our souls.

Join us for this **free concert at Messiah Lutheran Church, 305 W. Magnetic Street, Marquette.**

The following new FPC Deacons and Elders were elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting on April 19:

Deacons, Class of 2029

- Dan Larson
- Maribeth Larson
- Amanda Kline
- Lisa Potvin
- Simon Jaklin
- Carolyn McDonald (2nd term)
- Jan Rebers (2nd term)

Elders, Class of 2029

- Karen Blake
- Garry Koehn
- Dan Barrington
- Amanda Gobert (2nd term)

and the following were elected to the 2027 NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

- Susan Payant
- Nancy Seminoff
- Chuck Swanson

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Children's Sunday School during worship has resumed with the session: "Care for Creation" from the PC(USA) Follow Me curriculum.

Also, ALL AGES are invited to come to the next **Intergenerational Sunday School Class at 9am on June 7** (and every 1st Sunday thereafter) in the couch room.



**SOLACE IN THE SANCTUARY:** The sanctuary is open on Wednesdays from noon - 1 pm for prayer and reflection. Blaker Street doors will be open. All are welcome.

**CE SPIRITUAL FORMATION:** Volunteers are needed for leading Sunday School and the nursery. Please contact Lynnea Hosey, CE Chair. The Personnel Committee is working on next steps for the hiring of a CE Director. Questions/input may be directed to co-chairs Jennifer Bruggink, Christine Pesola, Session elders and/or Pastor. Please pray for the next person God is calling to FPC!



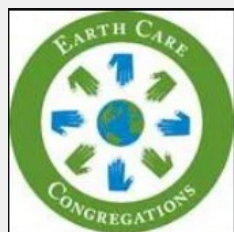
Please pardon our "cleaning in progress". Leadership has worked out a cleaning schedule with a contractor, while preparing to post the custodian position and find the right person to fill it. We appreciate your patience!

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL- SAVE THE DATES:** July 13 - 16, 5:15 - 7:30 p.m.

**MONTHLY DEACON ON CALL:** *"It is the duty of Deacons, first of all, to minister to those in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith."* **PC(USA) Book of Order.**

As part of our pastoral care ministries, the Deacons designates a monthly Deacon on Call. Please contact the Deacon on Call if you or someone you know needs prayer, home visits, or assistance with food and/or financial needs. Inquiries will be held confidential as requested. The **Deacon on Call** for April is Jan Rebers and she can be reached at 250-7023.

**What is the Compassion Fund?** The Deacons' Compassion Fund has been formed in place of the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. This *confidential* fund is in place specifically for FPC members and friends of members with financial need. *You may apply for yourself or on behalf of a friend by speaking with the Pastor or the Deacon Moderator, Judy Baldwin, who will provide a form.* Half of the 1st Sunday donations to Deacons support the Compassion Fund. The Deacons also support the broader community with regular donations to the Community Assistance Fund and St. Vincent of DePaul with the other half of your offerings. Thank you for your generosity!



First Presbyterian Church is a certified  
PC(USA) Earth Care Congregation!

*The Earth Care team will meet on May 11 at 5pm.  
If you wish to learn more about this endeavor, please  
contact John Rebers at 250-0442 or  
jrebers@gmail.com*

**THE MARQUETTE CITY CLEANUP** was held May 2. The area around the church and the back hill were cleaned up! **Thank you** to the volunteers: Karen Blake, Mary Craik, Joy Niemi,

John and Jan Rebers, and Crystal Watson. This is one of the sponsored activities of the Social Education and Action Committee.

**WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS!** If you are interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church, please contact Pastor Natalie at:  
[pastornataliehandley@gmail.com](mailto:pastornataliehandley@gmail.com).

**FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:** Please consider volunteering at your church. We need volunteers to help greet and to provide goodies for coffee hour. Please sign up on the sheet in the parlors. Live out a new life in Christ by volunteering at your church.

**FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Please scan this code for online giving and to set up your recurring gift:



**SCRIP GIFT CARDS MAKE WONDERFUL GIFTS & HELP YOUR CHURCH!**

**WE HAVE A GREAT VARIETY OF PARTICIPATING MERCHANTS.  
CARDS COME IN A VARIETY OF \$\$ VALUES!**

Huron Mountain Bakery  
Econo Foods  
Holiday Gas  
Border Grill  
Downwind Sports  
Babycakes Muffin Co.  
Art U.P. Style  
Marquette Food Coop  
Pasta Shop  
Snowbound Books  
Vangos

*There is nothing to lose...you get full face value...BUT **the church gets 3-10%**, and all profits go into the Reserve Fund! Scrip forms are on the hallway table at the church, or call Jan Rebers at **228-3617**. Thank you!*

**STAY CONNECTED TO THE WIDER CHURCH VIA FACEBOOK (FB):**

- Our local church FB page is "**First Presbyterian Church of Marquette**" where **worship services are livestreamed**, and events & updates are regularly posted!
- The national level church FB page is "**Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**" where you can receive news and updates on the church, including general assembly, mission, and more.
- The "**Presbyterian church (U.S.A.) Washington Office**" FB page is the public policy information and advocacy office of the PC(USA), which regularly issues Calls to Action and the importance of our faith in conversation with the world.

**BULLETIN & E-NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

If you have anything that needs to be placed in the Sunday bulletin or weekly

E-News, please submit it to the church office by

**10am on Wednesday.**

Send submissions to: [firstpresbyterianmqt@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyterianmqt@gmail.com). Thank you!

1) [Presbyterians turn out in droves to learn more about Christian Nationalism](#): Learn more about what the term means and why faith leaders are concerned about its growing presence in the United States. You can also learn from this PC(USA) document by [clicking here](#).

2) [PC\(USA\) Celebrates 70 YEARS of WOMEN clergy!](#)

3) [Recovery begins in Hawaii after worst flooding in decades](#) - Presbyterians can help survivors rebound from torrential rains and severe damage to homes, infrastructure, roads and various buildings

4) [Presbyterians Urge Congress to oppose additional Iran war funding](#): Office of Public Witness joins other faith groups in opposing money for 'illegal and reckless' conflict

### **The 227th General Assembly (GA) will be held in Milwaukee this June!**

FPC Marquette will be represented! Did you know that Simon Jaklin was elected as Young Adult Advisory Delegate and Jeff Jaklin elected as a Ruling Elder delegate by the Presbytery of Mackinac? PCUSA members are welcome to attend as observers. To learn more about GA, go to the [website](#) or [newsletter](#)!

*If you would like a person named in the congregation's prayers, please first obtain permission from the person to list his/her name in the E-Newsletter. We will list each person for a short time, then the name will be removed. If the person would like to continue to be listed, please call the church.*



### **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

Loved ones of Bill Smyth who passed away April 30

Loved ones of Mary Ellen Eckler who passed away May 3

Healing Laura J.'s arm, and multiple myeloma is in remission

Lisa Fleet in hospital with increased health concerns, transfer to St. Mary's soon

Eric Angeli & Sarah Ishman recently welcomed baby Elio (Pittsburgh)

Jim Robb moved back to Marquette; 2nd anniversary of wife Tina's passing

Sam Elder in treatment for prostate cancer

Alice Harbin is scheduled for heart valve closure surgery in Grand Rapids

Jenn Klipp as she is treated for breast cancer

Continue to lift up Faye Bowers' son Pete in his healing process

More community mental health services

People experiencing homelessness and God's work among them

Those affected by the conflict in Iran

Those struggling with addictions and their loved ones



**PLEASE BE REMINDED TO DROP OFF  
YOUR ECONO FOODS RECEIPTS**

**in the basket by the mail center.**

**Thank you!**

### **Monday, May 11**

9:15 a.m. - Jazzercise

10:00 a.m. - Knitting Group

5:00 p.m. - Earth Care Meeting

5:30 p.m. - Jazzercise

7:00 p.m. - Al-Anon

**Tuesday, May 12**

9:00 a.m. - Men's Ministry

10:00 a.m. - Rachel Circle

10:00 a.m. - Building Staff Huddle

3:00 p.m. - Worship & Music Committee

4:45 p.m. - Jazzercise

6:00 p.m. - Session Meeting

**Wednesday, May 13**

12:00 p.m. - Solace in the Sanctuary

6:15 p.m. - Bell Choir

7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir

**Thursday, May 14**

1:00 p.m. - Personnel Committee

4:00 p.m. - Membership Committee

5:30 p.m. - Jazzercise

7:00 p.m. - GA & GAM-Anon

7:00 p.m. - Rebecca Circle

**Friday, May 15**

9:15am - Jazzercise

**Saturday, May 16**

9:15 & 10:15 a.m. - Jazzercise

10:30 a.m. - AA Big Book Meeting

**SUNDAY, May 17 - 7th Sunday of Easter**

10:00 a.m. - Worship in the Sanctuary - Rev. Natalie Handley

11:30 a.m. - Coffee Hour

**MISSION STATEMENT OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit to know, grow, and show  
Christ's love to all through worship, education, and service in the name  
of Jesus Christ.*

First Presbyterian Church | 120 N. Front St. | Marquette, MI 49855 US

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