

## A NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR, August, 2023

In a world where there is so little that is constant, I typically take scales of measurement for granted. A cup of milk is a cup of milk. 10 pounds of flour weighs the same as 10 pounds of bricks. 100 degrees Fahrenheit is the same amount of heat when the thermometer registers that temperature. The only exception to this rule is when I try to buy clothes online, where numbers representing size can mean vastly different things across different clothing labels. I was surprised to learn, then, that a mile has not always been a consistent form of measurement. That which I assume has ALWAYS denoted a length of 5,280 feet has a widely varied history across time and place and meaning. In ancient Rome, a mile indicated 1,000 double paces (one step with each foot); the medieval English mile was 6,610 feet; the old London mile was 5,000 feet. In the Middle Ages, throughout Germany, Holland, and Scandinavia a mile indicated an arbitrary measurement, ranging anywhere from 3.25–6 English miles in length. In other contexts, a mile simply meant “a great distance” and in others it meant not a length of distance but of time—measuring about 20 minutes. The 5,280-foot mile was not codified as a measurement until Elizabeth’s reign, in which it was set by a legal act at 320 perches, the equivalent of 5,280 feet. How about that!

Ok, so what does all of this have to do with our life together at FPC Buchanan?

We are a little over a year into our capital campaign, **175 & Beyond**. So far, we have raised over \$250,000! This is an extraordinary achievement by any measure. And yes, the task ahead may be daunting—or simply seem like it is just taking too long. But the GOOD NEWS is that we worship a God whose faithful love for us cannot be contained. Scripture reminds us in Psalm 139 that the God who knows the number of hairs on each one of our heads is a God whose love reaches us wherever we may go. Psalm 103 reminds us that God’s steadfast love is as high as the heavens are above the earth. What’s more, God’s steadfast love is from everlasting to everlasting.

The God of all eternity is a God of immeasurable faithfulness and love. God is with us always, as God has promised from the beginning of time and the first time people gathered for worship at FPC Buchanan more than 175 years ago. God will never leave us nor forsake us. This gives me reason not only to hang in there when the in-between time feels like its dragging on, but it gives me hope. It inspires within me a curiosity about what God might be up to next through each one of us and through our life together. In a world where so little is constant and change seems to be all around, let us hear the Good news: God is God of yesterday, today and tomorrow. God’s love never ends. Thanks be to God!

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor David

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 Women's Association Bake Sale 8-1PM
6 Communion	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 WMS Meeting Following Service	14 30 Club Meeting 1PM Gathering Place	15 Session Meeting 11AM Gathering Place	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

# AUGUST

# NOTES

## Liturgists:

Aug 6<sup>th</sup> - Donna Trigg

Aug 13<sup>th</sup> - Marie Remington

Aug 20<sup>th</sup> - Tom Wrasse

Aug 27<sup>th</sup> - Susan Coulston

## Assistant Treasurers:

Aug 6<sup>th</sup> - Dave Coulston, Pat Johnson

Aug 13<sup>th</sup> - Johanna Money, Dru Wrasse

Aug 20<sup>th</sup> - Pat Johnson, TBD

Aug 27<sup>th</sup> - Dave Coulston, Johanna Money

- There will be a Women's Association Bake Sale at the Buchanan Farmers Market August 5<sup>th</sup> from 8am -1 pm. If you would like to contribute baked goods, you can drop it off Fri Night, Aug 4<sup>th</sup>, or the morning of the sale.
- There are new office hours! Allison will be in the office **Mon-Tues 9AM- 12PM, Wed-Thur 9AM-11AM**. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sunday  
7/23  
12-2PM

# Malawi-Madagascar Elevator Fundraising Luncheon

First Presbyterian Church  
115 W Front. Buchanan

Featuring the  
*Malawi Band*

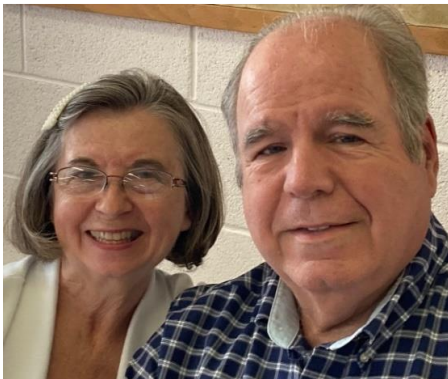
\$20 per  
adult  
\$5 per kid  
up to 13  
Takeout  
available



New experiences in food, fun, fellowship, friendship and music ruled (and rocked) Fellowship Hall at FPC Buchanan during the *Malawi-Madagascar Elevator Fundraising Luncheon*...all thanks to a group of generous donors and sponsors, including talented chefs, musicians, and artists:

Cheryl and Roger Warner, Edwige Malo, Anney Jaozara, Blandine Jaozara, Orlando Totobesola, Anais Totobesola, and the inspired music of The Malawi Band. In addition to an afternoon of sharing God's love and abundance, the luncheon raised an amazing amount for the Elevator Fund! Thanks to all involved!

**\$2000 RAISED!**



*Many thanks to Julie Soales for her photo contributions.*

## The Elevator Project Has Begun!

In July we began work by creating access to the bottom and top of the elevator shaft site in order to get accurate measurements required for the architect to make detailed specification drawings. This means there is a hole in the floor of the Nursery room and another in the ceiling above the Pastor's office. The next step will be assessing the potential for hazardous materials presence in areas that will be disturbed by the project. No definite time line for completion has been established, but we will keep you informed as things begin to fall into place. Stay tuned. – Roger Warner

