

# COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LAC DU FLAMBEAU MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER VOLUME XXI                      ISSUE V

## *Our Mission Statement:*

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*As people of God and servants of our Lord Jesus Christ, we believe our Mission to be the building of a strong fellowship, ministering to the Spiritual and physical needs of the church, the community, and the world fulfilling our Lord's command to "Love our neighbors."*

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## **AMIDST THE SEASON OF EASTER: ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

Forty days after celebrating the Resurrection of the Lord, near the conclusion of the season of Easter, we commemorate the ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ into heaven. On this day in particular, we give thanks for Christ's sovereign rule over all creation. WE proclaim with joy that Jesus is already Lord of heaven and earth and head of the church.

The theological affirmation of Christ's ascension to reign and promised return is more important than the date on which the festival is observed. The dating of forty days after Jesus' resurrection follows the chronology in Acts.

Ascension of the Lord is always celebrated on a Thursday. This year the date is May 18<sup>th</sup>. The liturgical color for Ascension is white, continuing the color for the Easter season.

## **THE CONCLUSION OF THE SEASON OF EASTER: PENTECOST**

"Pentecost" comes from a Greek word meaning fiftieth day. On this day, the Holy Spirit came with wind and flame, equipping the disciples to proclaim the good news of the risen Lord to all people. Falling on the fiftieth day of the season of Easter, Pentecost represents the culmination of the church's seven-week celebration of Christ's resurrection. As the Lord's Day is sometimes called the "eighth day" of creation, Pentecost is a day of new creation—all things transformed and made new by the Word and Breath of the living God. On the Day of Pentecost we give particular thanks for the gift of God's Holy Spirit, who gathers the church as the body of Christ and sends us to share in Christ's mission throughout the world.

The notion of Easter as a season of fifty days is patterned after the ancient Jewish period of seven weeks that extended from the beginning of the barley harvest, after Passover, to the end of the wheat harvest at the Festival of Weeks (in Hebrew, *Shavuot*). In Jewish tradition, *Shavuot* also marks the giving of the law to Moses at Sinai, a connection that may inform Paul's discussion of the law and the Spirit.

This year, the fiftieth day in the Season of Easter falls on May 28<sup>th</sup>. The liturgical color for Pentecost is red.

## A Love Letter To The Saints of Community Presbyterian Church

*Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"...When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."*

John 20.18a, 19-22

To the Saints of Community Presbyterian Church engaged in God's mission, greetings:

First of all, no the above is not a mis-print, nor is it a proof-reading error. It is in fact the same text I reflected on for the April newsletter. It is fitting to reflect out of it again this Easter season. Mary Magdalene is the only witness to the events of the first Easter morning in each of the Gospels. This a reminder that if the resurrection narratives were composed to be a "proof" of the event, they never would have been constructed with a woman as the witness. Thus this is a story of faith, for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear.

Mary Magdalene goes to the disciples and announces that she has "seen the Lord". Later that first Easter evening, Jesus appears to the disciples, offers them Peace (twice) and then fills them with the Holy Spirit through his breath. Easter is the fifty-day season when the Church celebrates not only Jesus' resurrection, but the opportunity to—with our own eyes—experience the risen Lord ourselves. How have you experienced the Lord's peace? Where do you believe the culture in which we live needs to experience the risen Lord, the one who offers both peace and the presence and presents of the Holy Spirit? How have you experienced the voice of the Spirit given by Jesus to his disciples? These questions are important for us to embrace, because, given Jesus' departure to be with God, we—you and I and everyone who identifies as a disciple of Jesus—are his witnesses in the wake of his resurrection.

Thank you for your witness to God's mission in the person of Jesus through the passion and purpose of the Holy Spirit and for your witness to God's Way in the world as you love God and neighbor and yourself, and for your presence in the Community Presbyterian Church.

Blessings and Be Well...

*Timm*

**Sunday morning worship begins at 10am weekly in the sanctuary.**

The texts for preaching during May are:

May 7	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Psalm 31.1-5, 15-16	John 14.1-14
May 14	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Psalm 66.8-20	John 14.15-21
May 21	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35	John 17.1-11
May 28	Day of Pentecost	Numbers 11.24-30	Acts 2.11-21

## **Worship In May**

We will gather as a community for worship regularly at 10am during May, worship that will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion on May 7th.

**The Day of Pentecost** concludes the Season of Easter and will be celebrated on Sunday, May 28th.

## **An Invitation to be Transformed: Dwelling In The Word**

On Sundays from 9-9.40am, you are invited to come to the gathering space to reflect on the texts that will be preached during the worship service that morning.

## **Season of Easter Book Read**

On Sundays, April 16-May 21 from 11.15am-12.15pm and Wednesdays, April 19-May 24 from 9.30am-10.30am, you are invited to join in a discussion around *Freeing Jesus, Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way and Presence* by Diana Butler Bass. The Book read will cover one chapter each week. Copies of the book are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary as well as notebooks for you to journal in as you read.

## **Timm High Contact Information**

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Email: [timm.high27@gmail.com](mailto:timm.high27@gmail.com)

## **Thanks Be To God To...And For...**

Members and friends of CPC who as disciples faithfully share their presence and presents supporting God's work individually and corporately through CPC!

Members and Friends who are sustaining their financial commitment to CPC for 2023!

Those who are participating in the "Freeing Jesus" book read during the Easter season.

Those who continue to faithfully pray for resolution and reconciliation regarding the land dispute between our neighbors who live on the lakes, the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, the title companies, and the town of Lac du Flambeau.

The members of the Board of Deacons for their faithful service around the celebrations of Palm Sunday and Easter.

Everyone who assisted in supporting the Memorial Service for Judy Allen.

Kim Emery for joining Community Presbyterian Church by letter of transfer from the Chapel Lane Presbyterian Church in Midland, MI, through the Presbytery of Lake Huron.

## **Rejoicing In The Season Of Easter**

During the Season of Easter you will find a different posting on the theme of rejoicing on CPC's website: [www.ldfchurch.com](http://www.ldfchurch.com). Look at the top of the home page to the far right. Under "More" you will find "Reflections" listed. Click on this in order to find the "Rejoicing In The Season of Easter" pieces.

In Loving Memory And With Gratitude To God  
For The Life And Love Of Judy J. Allen  
Born: April 19, 1944  
United With The Church Eternal: March 27, 2023  
United With Community Presbyterian Church: January 27, 2008  
Ordained as an Elder: January 10, 2010

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In Loving Memory And With Gratitude to God  
For the Life and Love Of Elaine Jordan  
Born: September 12, 1923  
United With The Church Eternal: March 27, 2023

SESSION NOTES FROM April 20, 2023

Present: Pastor Timm High, moderator, Kathy LaBarge, Jill Consie, Mary Jane Stevens, Ralph Kerler, Glenn Morrison, Pearl Jonkman Hujet, Owen Karlmann.

Excused: Tom Gelwicks and Steve Schunk.

After determining a quorum Pastor Timm High called the meeting to order at 10:03 with a prayer.

Pastor Timm asked members of the session what is your favorite hymn and why? Discussion followed.

Discernment question: Are we willing to be transformed and if we are willing what will that look like? Discussion followed.

Motion made by Ralph Kerler and seconded by Mary Jane Stevens to approve minutes of the March session meeting. Minutes were approved as submitted.

After some discussion on the Treasurer's Report, a motion was made by Jill Consie and seconded by Glenn Morrison to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted.

A request was made by Rebecca to buy some more appropriate music for the choir. Motion made by Ralph Kerler to buy music. Motion carried. Money to come from memorial fund for Judy Allen.

Pastor Timm posed the question to Session as to whether we would like to send a memorial for Jack Fashbaugh? Jill Consie made a motion to donate \$200 and was seconded by Mary Jane Stevens. A decision to make the donation to Theater North in Ironwood MI was made.

Jill Consie made a motion for \$1000 to be sent to Carnitas from the mission fund and seconded by Ralph Kerler and Pearl Jonkman Hujet. Motion carried.

Ralph requested to use the church for a meeting. Motion made by Pearl Jonkman Hujet to allow the request and seconded by Owen Karlmann. Motion carried.

Next session meeting will be May 25 at 10:00.

Motion made to adjourn by Glenn Morrison, seconded by Mary Jane Stevens. The meeting closed with a prayer at 12:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy LaBarge, Clerk of Session.



**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

Grant Birmingham	May 4
Kathy LaBarge	May 8
Glenn Morrison	May 8
Organization of our Congregation	May 13
Barb Streng	May 13
Jan Hoppe	May 17

**Anniversaries**

Bob and Janeen Clarke	May 5
Rick and Ruth Ann Kamerad	May 23

**Scripture readings for April**

**May 7 - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 7:55-60 and Ps. 31:1-5, 15-16 or Prov. 4:10-18 and Ps. 119:9-32; 1 Pet. 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

**May 14 - 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 17:22-31 and Ps. 66:8-20 or Ezek.34:1-7a and Ps. 115; 1 Pet.3:13-22; John 14:15-21

**May 21 - 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 1:6-14 and Ps.68:1-10, 32-35 or Isa.45:1-7 and Ps.21:1-7; 1 Pet.4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

**May 28 - Day of Pentecost**

Acts 2:1-21 or Num. 11:24-30 and Ps. 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Cor. 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

**Special Dates for April**

National Day of Prayer	May 4
Mother's Day	May 14
Ascension Day	May 18
Armed Forces Day	May 20
Victoria Day (Canada)	May 22
Pentecost	May 28
Memorial Day	May 29

### **Congregational Choice Hymns**

Each week, beginning Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, the Sunday morning worship liturgy will include a hymn chosen by you, by a member/friend of the congregation. Please note your favorites below or on the bulletin insert in May and return it to Timm and then look for a favorite of yours and perhaps of your friends in the bulletin each Sunday. Thank you for this way of helping craft the liturgy on Sunday mornings, giving the Spirit another portal to speak through!

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**WE ARE IN NEED OF PEOPLE TO SIGN UP FOR:**  
**GREETER AND ANNOUNCER**  
**LITURGIST**  
**USHERS**  
**COFFEE HOUR**

Community Presbyterian Church facebook link:  
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100066635837878>

Website link: <https://LDF church.com/>