



# The TARTAN



First Presbyterian Church of Alpena, Michigan  
1600 W. Chisholm Street

• Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. • Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

**Our Vision: To be faithful through relevant worship, serving others as disciples of Jesus Christ; to PROCLAIM the good news of Jesus Christ, so all may come to believe; to NURTURE God's people in joyful faith, commitment and fellowship; and to DEMONSTRATE our Lord's way of love through our service to the community and larger world.**



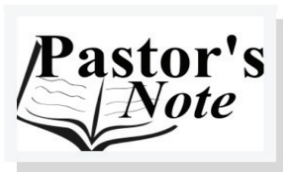
The Presbyterian Women's Association is planning an **Afternoon Tea Saturday, October 21 at 2:00 p.m.** for the women of the church. All are welcome. We will have a sign up sheet for reservations at the kiosk. For questions please call Jan Mooradian at 727.2554.

The women had a lovely dinner and meeting in September, enjoying fellowship and reviewing the new Bylaws.

## **HOLIDAY BAZAAR** **& Luncheon Plans**

**November 18** is the date for the annual **Holiday Bazaar & Luncheon**. There are always jobs to be done and the wonderful fellowship of working together. We will have jams and corn relish, cookies and brownies, linens, greeting cards, to name just a few and wonderful offerings for our tin can raffle. We will also be repurposing gently used or new items.

Do you have some things to donate? Check with Vi Pashley, Char Keune, or Jan Mooradian for more information about how you can be a part of the event!



## WRIGHT ON—



**PASTOR  
Nominating  
Committee**

## October Update

Several months ago, after Bob Case had announced his pending retirement, it appeared that we soon would have a new pastor to replace him. I offered to fill a part of the gap for up to four months, believing that would be ample time to make the transition. Unfortunately, our new pastor is not yet in sight and my services will end on October 1st.

I have enjoyed the responsibility of leading the worship, have felt privileged to provide a limited amount of pastoral care, and have been frustrated by several administrative matters (most of which the Session graciously took out of my hands). A great number of members have stepped forward to assume various leadership roles. It's impossible to overestimate the value of their contributions.

However, I am concerned that several of the people whose names are listed on our Active Members Roll seldom appear for worship or give any other evidence of a real interest in our congregation's life and work. We need to determine how to reclaim them.

I wish that I had more to offer to you, but at the age of 84 I find that my energy level is sharply decreasing.

May God bless you richly as you move into a future which has yet to be determined.

~ SKHW

*Thank  
You!*

*To all of our friends and Christian family at Alpena Presbyterian Church, we want to thank you for the cards, inspirational thoughts and—most importantly, the prayers. We are currently a third of the way through chemo treatments, and hope to be back in Alpena by the first part of 2018.*

*Love to all,*

*Ruth and Terry Follbaum*

The PNC continues to meet and to receive Pastor Information Forms from the denomination's headquarters in Louisville.

We are currently reviewing three new forms: one individual was interviewed, via Skype, in mid-September; another is unwilling to relocate—with family—for a part-time position; as of this writing we have not been successful in contacting the third.

Readers may be interested to learn that since May of 2016, the PNC has received and reviewed 49 applications through the Church Leadership Connection in Louisville. We have attempted to contact all of them by email or telephone, to encourage them to learn more about us and the Alpena community, as well as to learn whether they are interested in Alpena First Presbyterian. Some have not replied to communication and after several attempts, we have given up. Some have taken positions and are no longer available. Some are not willing to relocate far from their current location. Others want a housing allowance rather than use of the manse. Still others require full-time position. A few have been looking for employment for their spouse. We have also learned that some of them don't meet our minimal requirements regarding leadership competencies.

We will continue our work on this until we are successful. We believe the right person is out there, somewhere, waiting to be called to serve our congregation. Your continuing prayers are greatly appreciated.

~ Gordon Snow

### *Children's Closet and Baby Pantry*

*are again in need of clothing for winter (but we take summer clothing as well).*

*Children's Closet has their winter giveaway in October and is very low on clothes for school age children, especially jeans and tops. We give these clothes to the neediest families in our community and want them to look good going to school.*

*Please help by donating clothes that don't fit your children at the St. Bernard's Parish Center at the Lockwood entrance.*

*If you have any questions, please call Doris Puls at 356-9545. Thanks!*

*Our mission: Freely we have received, freely give.*

# SPECIAL OFFERINGS PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS

The Peace & Global Witness Offering supports every level of the PC(USA) to work for peace and respond to injustice both near and far. Christ is our peace and we are bound together in him; we join in Christ's proclamation of peace no matter where we are. Fifty percent of the offering goes to national church ministries, 25% goes to mid councils for use in regional peacemaking initiatives and 25% is kept local. This year our 25% is earmarked for "Compass North Youth Services and Crisis Intervention Program", previously known as "Third Level".

As we gather at the table where we proclaim Christ's body is present and thus proclaim that our peace is present, we surrender hatred and hostility in order to proclaim peace. Please give generously on World Communion Sunday, October 1, when the offering will be collected.



... and Deacons

First Presbyterian Church  
Alpena, Michigan

## SESSION & DEACONS MEETING September 18, 2017

The Rev. Sanford Wright, Temporary Pastor, opened the meeting with prayer at 7 p.m. A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes from Aug. 21. So ordered.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** It was moved and seconded to accept the financial report. So ordered.

For the period ending Aug. 31, the checking account had a balance of \$51,104.14, and restricted funds had a balance of \$25,601.42 for a total of \$76,705.56.

### **PASTOR'S REPORT:**

1. Rev. Wright visited two members in the hospital.
2. He referred a letter from the Presbytery of Mackinac regarding the opportunity for applicants as Young Adult Advisory Delegate and an alternate to the 223rd General Assembly in 2018 to the Church Life and Communication Committee.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** Communion was served Sept. 3.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Budget and Finance:** It was moved and seconded to authorize Elder Jan Kane to meet with a representative of the accounting firm Boldrey, Senchuk, Rouleau and Williams to develop a list of procedures for a financial review. She also is authorized to sign an engagement letter for an amount not to exceed \$1,500.

### **Mission and Education:**

**Mission:** Alexis Timmreck enjoyed her time at Camp Westminster, and Evan Winslow gave a minute for mission on his trip west where his group evangelized.

The Peace & Global Witness Special Offering will be collected on Sunday, Oct. 1. The church retains 25 percent, which will be given to Compass North Youth Services and Crisis Intervention Program.

Karen Brindley will present a minute for mission on Hunger Awareness/Solidarity Action on Oct. 8.

**Education:** The committee will consider whether to participate in the Vacation Bible School in 2018, as it cost the church \$400 and only two children attended and one young person served as a helper.

**Church Life and Communication:** A potluck and birthday cake auction are planned for Oct. 8.

**Property and Maintenance:** Elder Dennis Harris reported the manse painting is about done.

**Nominating Committee:** The following people will be nominated to serve as Elders at the Oct. 1 Congregational meeting: Richard Lessard, Laura Trainer and Jan Kane. The following will be nominated to serve as Deacons: Hope Digna and Debby Edgar.

**Personnel:** It was moved and seconded to change the Church Secretary's position to Administrative Assistant. So ordered.

### **DEACONS**

Deacon Vi Pashley presented a lengthy list of accomplishments for 2017 and the deacons' many responsibilities. Among the many items were oversight of the landscaping project, the automatic door openers and responsibility for the emergency boxes and defibrillator.

It was moved and supported to receive the report and thank the deacons for their work. So ordered.

### **IN OTHER BUSINESS, THE SESSION:**

1. Approved the Women's Association's revised bylaws.
2. Approved a form letter for groups which have been approved to use the church in case of an emergency. Nathan Skibbe, Dennis Harris and David Hammerquist are the contacts.
3. Approved entering into the church minutes a letter from Max Lindsay, president of Habitat for Humanity Northeast Michigan, which stated the organization formally withdraws its request for any type of signage.
4. Agreed that non-members can't use the church for social events.

With no further business, The Rev. Wright adjourned the meeting with prayer at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Bray  
Clerk of Session