

The

August, 2017

Challenge



1 CORINTHIANS 3:16

OUR MISSION:

IS TO KNOW THE LOVE OF GOD,
TO PROVIDE TANGIBLE CHRISTIAN GROWTH
AND TO GO LIVE OUR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.

KNOW – GROW – GO



Dear Friends,

A BIG event that I hope you'll put on your calendars and make every effort to attend is this year's National Night Out event.

National Night Out is a national event for neighborhoods in cooperation with local law enforcement and other community organizations. Here in Port Huron this joint ministry began in Olde Town seven years ago with FPC and Holy Trinity parish hosting an ice cream social in the courtyard at FPC. That quickly outgrew our lawn two years in a row, to take root at the old St. Joseph School gymnasium. By that time other churches in the neighborhood had joined together and we welcomed some 600 people for a safe evening of fun and fellowship and community building.

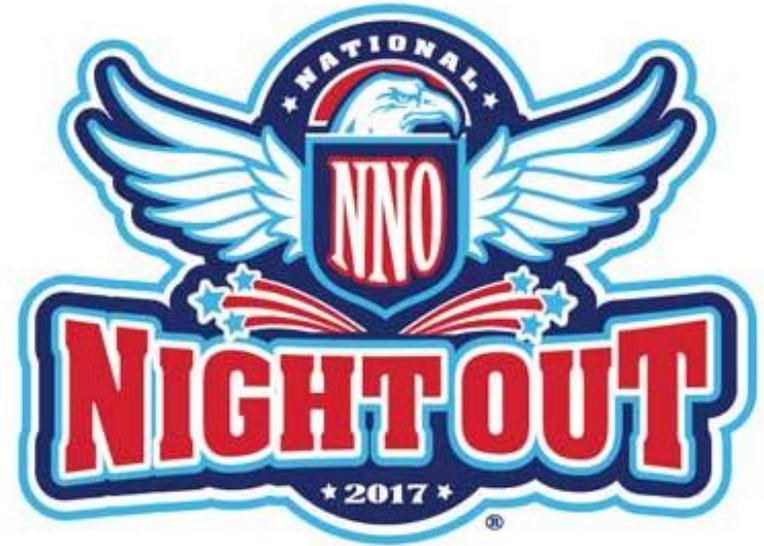
This year is no exception. Now held in the parking lot of First Congregational Church, we welcome 800-1000 of our Olde Town neighbors for this evening that is unmatched anywhere else in the Blue Water Area. **Tuesday, August 1 from 5:30-7:30p.m.** we invite you to turn off the television, come outside, and join our neighbors and neighborhood congregations for an evening of community building and fellowship. It's sure to be a wonderful night.

As an aside: if you've ever wanted to "sock it" to Pastor Jason, he'll be in the dunk tank for a time and doing his best to stay dry. Throw a ball or two and see if you get him wet!

On a personal note: I was overwhelmed with love and gratitude for you all at FPC when presented with the new pulpit gown in July. It's very hard to believe that we've begun our tenth year together in ministry! I give thanks to God for you all, for your generosity, your forgiveness, your willingness to try new things, and for your continued love and support of me and my family here in Port Huron. And I look forward to wearing out a new robe as we celebrate the movement of God's Spirit among us in worship, sharing life together, and serving our Lord, Jesus Christ!

In Christ,

Pastor Jason



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

First Congregational Church Parking Lot,
8th & Court Streets
5:30 to 7:30 PM

FACE-PAINTING
BOUNCE HOUSES
FREE HOT DOGS
LIVE MUSIC
FREEZE POPS, POPCORN
GAMES FOR CHILDREN
BINGO FOR ADULTS
RESOURCE TABLE
BIKE GIVEAWAYS
& MORE!

Turn off the T.V., turn on the porch lights, and come outside!

Sponsored By Olde Town Churches and Organizations:
First Congregational Church, First Presbyterian Church, Grace Episcopal Church, Holy Trinity Catholic
Parish, Trinity Lutheran Church, Our Saviour Lutheran Church, St. John's U.C.C.,
St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Mid-City Nutrition,
and Port Huron Police Department

If You Are One Of Those Lucky People...



who will be heading off to college, warmer climates for the winter, or if you are changing your address for any other reason, please let



us know at the church office. We love to keep in touch. Be sure you get the Challenge or any other mailings that may be of importance to you.



Also, **if you have an EMAIL address**, especially those of you away at college or out of state for the winter ...please notify the church office. It is a great saver of time and postage. Drop us a note, email portpresby@fpcporthuron.org or call the church office...985-6191.

DEACONS' BENCH



The Board of Deacons are collecting items for the Blue Water Community Food Depot. Thanks to everyone for the continued support of this local mission. \$50 was donated in the month of July. If you are able, please bring any nonperishable food or personal care items to the Church on the first Sunday of every month.

COMMUNITY MINISTRY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Once again Port Presby shines!

Wednesday, August 9 is our next date for distributing food to our friends in need. Save the date! And we'll see you here as, together, we minister unto Jesus as we respond to needs of those around us.



Pastoral Care

Privacy rules prevent the hospitals from informing us that we have parishioners in their care. If you enter the hospital unexpectedly, or for a planned procedure, please call the church office and let the staff know. We will be happy to visit you and represent Christ's healing presence to you.



CHURCH PICNIC

Worship, fellowship and food will be on the menu at the September 10 church picnic at the Fort Gratiot County park pavilion and grounds along the Lake Huron shoreline in Burchville Twp. It will begin with a 10 a.m. worship service with the picnic to follow.

The Membership and Outreach Committee will be providing the meat and beverages. Those attending are asked to bring a dish or dessert to pass and lawn chairs. Parking is available near the pavilion and grounds.

Kirking of the Tartans

Kirking of the Tartans Sunday will be here again before you know it. Contact Tom Andison (364-5281) if you want a new tartan so that it may be ordered in time for this year's Kirking in October.



The 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation will be acknowledged and celebrated on the last Sunday of October.

Martin Luther launched the Reformation, and at that time translated the Bible from Greek and Hebrew to German... This led to the English translation and the King James Version of the Bible. His philosophy was that the church's greatest treasure was the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" is often sung at the anniversary of the Reformation. The words are taken from Psalm 46 and written by Luther. The Sanctuary Choir will sing a choral and instrumental arrangement of this great hymn on the last Sunday of October. The congregation will join in the singing.

I would like to invite ten people to join the Sanctuary Choir for this occasion. We will have a short rehearsal of the Anthem on Sunday morning at nine thirty beginning in September... and a Choir presentation on the last Sunday of October. You do not need to make all rehearsals. Your addition to the Sanctuary Choir for this one Sunday will be a wonderful moment in our worship. I will have music waiting for you.

By the way – "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" was sung for the funeral of Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969).

Thanks for considering this one time singing adventure.

Carrie



Port Presby Social Group

A new event for us: a visit to Sunny Fields Botanical Park, shopping at Country Smoke House, and lunch at Roadhouse 19! Don't miss it, and bring your friends. Remember, this group is for singles and couples, everyone is welcome.

AUGUST

What: Visit the beautiful gardens at Sunny Fields in Emmett, then we will shop at Country Smoke House and have lunch at Roadhouse 19. In case of rain, we will skip the gardens or just drive by.

When: Saturday, August 5th. Meet at our church's parking lot at 10:00 a.m. to carpool to Emmett.

Cost: Donation for the gardens.

RSVP: Call Annette at 586-725-4934 to reserve your spot.



Parents, do you ever feel lost when it comes to guiding your children in their relationship with God?

If you answered “no”, then give me a call because I want to know your secret!

The truth is, ALL of us struggle in this area. Especially as our kids get older and become more independent, it can be a challenge to be consistent and intentional with faith formation at home. Yet, making faith a part of the daily conversation and “walking the walk” when it comes to following Christ, is the stuff that matters most when it comes to raising kids whose faith sticks with them into adulthood.

The great gift of being a part of the church is that we're not alone! By God's grace, we have a community of faith who promises at each every Baptism, to love and support and help us raise children who grow in faith and love for Jesus Christ.

Your church family also wants to love and support and help parents!

So, we're starting this new little column in our Challenge newsletter. Here, you'll find monthly encouragement and helpful practices to aide in your endeavor to raise your kids in the faith.

Here's a little something to get us all started:

Does your family share prayer at each mealtime? Summer is a great time to begin this practice — or deepen it if it's already a part of your routine — as families often share more mealtimes together during the summer vacation months.

Praying before meals not only sets the tone for your time together, but it helps instill in children the importance of pausing and giving thanks back to God before taking what God has to offer. It's also the perfect platform to get kids comfortable praying out loud! Keep it simple and fun.

In our family, we often sing our prayers! Sing the Doxology (“Praise God from whom all blessings flow....”), “Joy to the World”, “Jesus Loves Me”. Or, pull out some old church camp songs like the Johnny Appleseed Prayer, or the “Superman Prayer” (not sure what that one is? Ask any Pittman to show you!). Make prayer a part of every mealtime. And don't worry if your kids are reluctant to participate. Make mealtime prayer a habit. The example will stick with them long after they leave the table.

Are there topics you'd like to see addressed in this column? If so, email Kelly at kellymichelle76@gmail.com.

Let's support one another in raising kids with a faith that sticks!

First Presbyterian Church

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AUGUST 2017

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 Web: fpcporthuron.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>DEACONS BENCH</p> <p>The Board of Deacons Communion Offering schedule is as follows:</p> <p>Church members may donate any non-perishable items each month. The Food Depot is always in need of <i>baby food, baby wipes, diapers, ramen noodles, saltine crackers, & personal items such as toothpaste, soap, combs, Band-Aids, etc. Items are collected at the church weekly.</i></p> <p><i>Donations should be placed in boxes located in the foyers or office.</i></p>		<p>01 10:00 Prayer Group</p> <p>5:30 National Night Out @ 1ST Congregational</p>	<p>02 10:00 Staff 10:00 Quilters</p>	<p>03 8:00 Breakfast @ Theo's</p>	<p>04 Office Closed</p>	<p>05 10:00 Port Presby Social Group</p>
<p>06 Communion Hunger Offering 8:00 Worship/Communion @ Lighthouse Park 10:00 Worship/Communion 11:00 Coffee Hour/Fellowship</p>	<p>07</p> <p>7:00 Deacons' Picnic</p>	<p>08 10:00 Prayer Group</p>	<p>09 10:00 Quilters 12:00 Food Truck</p>	<p>10 8:00 Breakfast @ Theo's 12:00 Management</p>	<p>11 Office Closed</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 8:00 Worship @ Lighthouse Park 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour/Fellowship</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:15 Coordinating Comm. 7:00 Session</p>	<p>15 CHALLENGE DEADLINE 10:00 Prayer Group</p> <p></p> <p>7:00 Membership Team</p>	<p>16 10:00 Staff 10:00 Quilters</p>	<p>17 8:00 Breakfast @ Theo's 1:00 Sunshine Diners</p>	<p>18 Office Closed</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 8:00 Worship @ Lighthouse Park 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour/Fellowship 11:00 New Member Class</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 10:00 Prayer Group</p> <p>5:30 CE</p>	<p>23 CHALLENGE IN MAIL 10:00 Quilters</p> <p>4:00 Worship & Music</p>	<p>24 8:00 Breakfast @ Theo's</p>	<p>25 Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 8:00 Worship @ Lighthouse Park 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour/Fellowship 11:00 New Member Class</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:00 Mission</p>	<p>29 10:00 Prayer Group</p>	<p>30 10:00 Staff 10:00 Quilters</p>	<p>31 8:00 Breakfast @ Theo's</p>		