

EXPRESSIONS

CHURCH IN THE HILLS PC (USA)



There is such a stark difference between Summer and Fall. During the Summer, everyone has time to take in all the beauty and warmth. The days are long, and the Summer months are just long enough for us to take it all in. The Fall is possibly more beautiful but fleeting. We all love the beauty but none of us are sitting back enjoying it. We are hard at work preparing for Winter. We're raking leaves, winterizing and storing boats. We're pulling in the docks and finishing our firewood routine. During these chores, we witness the beauty in our peripheral vision or we stop for a few minutes to take it in. Fall is too short, and Winter is too long not to be prepared.

On Reformation Sunday, we read a passage that every Christian has heard their whole life. "... all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). This aspect of our faith is like the ever-present threat of Winter. The reality of our sin colors our faith journey. We may not be able to enjoy the blessings that are available to us now because we know we'll never be good enough to earn the Kingdom of God. We know the central message of Christianity is Good News! but the bad news is always lurking around. I recently thought of a common analogy for faith. Faith is like being in the chilly water without a life-preserver. When someone throws a rope, you grab it with all your strength. The rope and the person who threw it represent grace. Your response to grab the rope is faith. It's obvious that faith is more like a desperate survival response than anything truly heroic. All of the heroism is directed to the person throwing the rope. The same is true of our faith in Jesus. We are all sinners and we are desperate to save our own skin, but God's gift to us is the real focus. It's important that we acknowledge our sinfulness, but only enough to tighten our desperate grip on God's grace. In the Spring when Easter comes, you'll once again realize that God has a pretty tight grip on you.

The Peace of Christ be with you!

David Ramage

DEACONS' CORNER

Join the Deacons for some "holiday cheer" after church on December 9th. There will be a variety of appetizers, coffee and wassail for everyone to sample. The Deacons are providing appetizers but would like everyone to bring a plate of Christmas cookies to share. Come down and join the fun – carols included!



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4th. DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK BEFORE YOU GO TO BED SATURDAY EVENING.

DEACONS

Class of 2018

Katrina Marshall	331-6013
Barb Salo	533-4122
Gloria Weiss	377-7168

Class of 2019

Judy Card	676-1616
Nancy Edleman	533-8586
Marge Glyshaw	533-8203

Class of 2020

Marty Harris	533-6105
Sarah Juntune	533-9403
Terrie Ramage	392-1704

PERSPECTIVE

One day, the father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the express purpose of showing him how poor people live.

They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family.

On the return from their trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?" "It was great Dad," said the son.

"Did you see how poor people live?" the father asked. "Oh yeah," said the son.

"So tell me, what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father.

The son answered:

"I saw that we have one dog and they had four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden and they have a creek that has no end.

We have imported lanterns in our garden and they have the stars at night.

Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon.

We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight.

We have servants who serve us, but they serve others.

We buy our food, but they grow theirs.

We have walls around our property to protect us; they have friends to protect them."

The boy's father was speechless. Then his son added, "Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are."

Isn't perspective a wonderful thing? Makes you wonder what would happen if we all gave thanks for everything we have, instead of worrying about what we don't have.

From the Bench



Please save the date of November 10 and plan to attend a wonderful concert at 2:00 presented by Kalamazoo College Singers, under the direction of Christopher Ludwa, Artistic Director of the prestigious Kalamazoo Bach Festival and the Bay View Music Festival in Petoskey. The ensemble of 32 singers features music of pop artists such as Carole King and James Taylor paired with global songs, folk music, spirituals and other styles in an entertaining and enlightening program centered on our relationship with the earth. A free-will offering will be collected to off-set their expenses of transportation and food. Please join us and bring lots of family and friends to enjoy what promises to be a wonderful way to spend a Saturday afternoon.

Dorothy Clore

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES FOR CHILDREN

If you would like to participate in the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoebox project, please pick up information and boxes on the Mission Table. You may also use your own box. (We're just recycling the boxes from offering envelopes.) Please **DO NOT INCLUDE CANDY OR TOOTHPASTE** this year. The boxes (closed with a rubber band, not tape) are due back by Sunday, November 11.

VIDALIA ONION DIP

1 cup Vidalia Onions (chopped)
1 cup Swiss or Cheddar Cheese (shredded)
1 cup Mayonnaise

Mix ingredients. Bake at 350° for 15-20 minutes until warm. (Do not overcook)

Serve with crackers or Scoops.

From the kitchen of Beverly Taup via Nancy Edleman

Final Call for Directory Photos

We are approaching the deadline for our new church directory. Final days are November 4, 7, 11, and 14. If you have not had your picture taken, please sign up at the back of the church. Call Dottie Schaefer with any questions at 231-377-7848.



Eileen Hedin	3-Nov
Ken Salo	4-Nov
Destiney Ray	6-Nov
Diana Milock	9-Nov
Gus Prince	12-Nov
Jim Racey	14-Nov
Rick Munger	14-Nov
Dorothy Clore	20-Nov
Tamara Byerly	20-Nov
Katrina Marshall	27-Nov

A little something to get the grey cells in motion...Heteronyms...this is brilliant.

For all of you who wonder why people from other countries have a bit of trouble with the English language. This is a clever piece put together by an English teacher, who else?

Homographs are words of like spelling but with more than one meaning. A homograph that is also pronounced differently is a heteronym. You think English is easy? I think a retired English teacher was bored...THIS IS GREAT!

Read all the way to the end. This took a lot of work to put together!

- The bandage was *wound* around the *wound*.
- The farm was used to *produce* *produce*.
- The dump was so full that it had to *refuse* more *refuse*.
- We must *polish* the *Polish* furniture.
- He could *lead* if he would get the *lead* out.
- The soldier decided to *desert* his dessert in the *desert*.
- Since there is no time like the *present*, he thought it was time to *present* the *present*.
- A *bass* was painted on the head of the *bass* drum.
- When shot at, the *dove* *dove* into the bushes.
- I did not *object* to the *object*.
- The insurance was *invalid* for the *invalid*.
- There was a *row* among the oarsmen about how to *row*.
- They were too *close* to the door to *close* it.
- The buck *does* funny things when the *does* are present.
- A seamstress and a *sewer* fell down into a *sewer* line.
- To help with planting, the farmer taught his *sow* to *sow*.
- The *wind* was too strong to *wind* the sail.
- Upon seeing the *tear* in the painting I shed a *tear*.
- I had to *subject* the *subject* to a series of tests.

- How can I *intimate* this to my most *intimate* friend?

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in a pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

By the end of the month we should know which families we will be helping this Christmas. Our goal is to help about 12-14 families. We focus on the children, trying to get one item of clothing and one “fun” present for each. We also try to provide each family with hats, mittens (preferably waterproof), and “stocking stuffer” items plus a gas card. If you would like to be collecting items like shampoo, lotions, and deodorant (preferably regular sizes) in advance, that would be great. Once we have the information, the little tree with gift slips (color-coded by family) will be in the Mission Corner. Please help as you are able. (Monetary gifts, labeled “Christmas Families” in the memo line, will be used to purchase the gift cards and items for any slips not taken.)



The Christmas tree and decorations will go up on Thursday, November 29th. If you are able to help, come to the Church at 10 AM. Barb Salo will bring some Christmas cookies and play Christmas music to get everyone in the holiday mood.

Once again we are grateful to Kirt Helsel from Messiah Tree Farm for donating the tree. Thank you Kirt!



Church in the Hills will be purchasing 110 of the new hymnal “Glory to God” and we ask for your participation. Please consider donating by purchasing one or more hymnals in memory of a loved one and we will honor those loved ones with a memorial label on the inside cover. Please fill out the form (on the credenza at church), make your check payable to Church in the Hills and specify that it’s for *hymnals* on the memo line. The deadline for orders is Sunday, November 18th. Thank you for your interest and participation.

Our Special Veterans

As Veteran’s Day (Nov 11) approaches we want to take this opportunity to thank all those who have served in the military. We appreciate the sacrifice you made to keep our country safe and to secure our right to worship freely.

We honor our veterans on a plaque at the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to be included, please send the following information- Name, Rank, Branch of Service, and years during which you served, to Dottie Schaefer or the church office.

If you consider this your church home, we would like to include you. You do not need to be a member to participate.

**LOCAL IMPACT OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
PEACEMAKING PROGRAM**

Annual peacemaking visits to the U.S. have taken place since 1984, with more than 300 individuals from 57 countries taking part. This year, St. Andrews Church in Beulah hosted the Rev. Jerome Bizimana from Rwanda, and Tom and I attended a meeting with him Oct. 13. He reminded us of the pre-planned genocide of the Tutsi tribe in 1994, when over 800,000 people were murdered in a 100-day period. (That's 8000 a day!)

Rev. Bisimana is the Moderator of his presbytery in Rwanda and initiated the Light Group, an organization composed of genocide survivors and perpetrators, helping people live in peace through testimonies and looking forward, not backward.

He also spoke of the vibrancy of the Presbyterian Church in Rwanda and stressed the need for Christians to live their faith in the real world, as Pastor David has been urging us also.

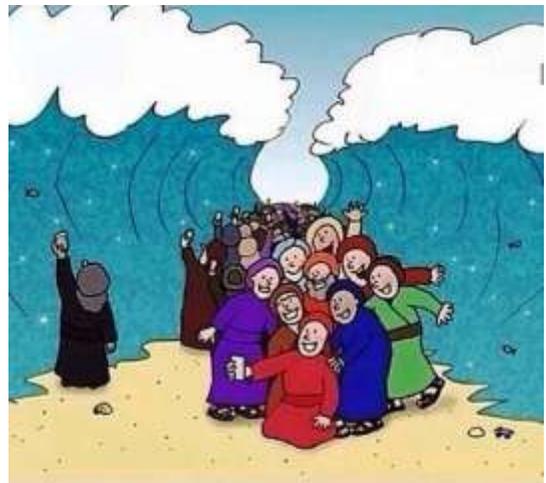
Many of you know Don and Carol Mead from the Beulah church who lived in Rwanda for two years, when Don taught economics at the university. The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program is planning a travel/study seminar to Rwanda March 11-23, 2019. If anyone wants more information about the travel/study program or how to contact the Meads, please ask us.

The Beulah church also recommends the book Left to Tell by Immaculée Ilibagiza, which presents the true story of a woman who endures the murder of her family as a result of genocide in Rwanda and turns to prayer for strength, love, and forgiveness. Copies are available at the TC library.

Sarah Juntune



It's time to order poinsettias. Colors this year are red or Jingle Bells (red and white) and the cost is once again \$15. Please fill out the form located on the credenza at church, make your check payable to Church in the Hills and specify that it's for *poinsettias* on the memo line. Deadline for orders is Sunday, November 11th.



If there were cellphones at the Red Sea

Deacon on call for November Gloria Weiss 377-7168



Steve and Donna Grill	19-Nov
Dennis and Jari Poll	25-Nov
Lew and Donna Lesperance	27-Nov

NOVEMBER 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 MEN'S RAP 9:00 AM	2	3
4 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS	5 PASTOR'S DAY OFF DEACONS 10:00 AM	6 BIBLE STUDY 10:00 AM	7 CHOIR 3:30 PM	8 MEN'S RAP 9:00 AM FINANCE 1:00 PM	9	10 KALAMAZOO COLLEGE CONCERT 2:00 PM
11 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM MISSION 12:00 PM	12 PASTOR'S DAY OFF NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	13 BIBLE STUDY 10:00 AM	14 SESSION 9:00 AM CHOIR 3:30 PM	15 MEN'S RAP 9:00 AM	16	17
18 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM	19 PASTOR'S DAY OFF	20 BIBLE STUDY 10:00 AM	21	22 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	23 PASTOR ON VACATION OFFICE CLOSED	24 PASTOR ON VACATION
25 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM PASTOR ON VACATION	26 PASTOR'S DAY OFF	27 BIBLE STUDY 10:00 AM BOOK GROUP 1:30 PM	28 CHOIR 3:30 PM	29 MEN'S RAP 9:00 AM HANGING OF THE GREENS 10:00 AM	30	

Church in the Hills
PO Box 319
Bellaire, Michigan 49615

NOVEMBER 2018

CHURCH IN THE HILLS
*A Presbyterian Community of
Faith and Friendship in Christ*
6401 Shanty Creek Rd
PO Box 319
Bellaire, MI 49615
Phone: 231-533-6001

OFFICE E-MAIL:
office@churchinthehills.net
WEBSITE:
www.churchinthehills.org

Service of Worship: Sunday 10:00 AM
Children's Program: Sunday 10:00 AM

OFFICE STAFFED
Mon – Thu, 9 AM – 1 PM
Lisa Luxton, Office Manager

Church in the Hills is a member of the
Presbytery of Mackinac
The Synod of the Covenant
The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Reverend David Ramage revramage@gmail.com

Clerk of Session: Mary Ann Waara 350-0067

Class of 2018

Linda Bicum	Christian Education	322-2811
Marlene Garvey	Personnel/Prayer	544-1111
Tom Juntune	Finance	533-9403

Class of 2019

Maureen Stenback	Worship	544-6522
Mary Ann Waara	Mission	350-0067
Phil Weiss	Finance	377-7168

Class of 2020

Paul DeLange	Bldg & Grnds	377-7333
Gordon Harris	Finance	599-2636
Dottie Schaefer	Membership	377-7848

Music Staff

Dorothy Clore, Nancy Hanson, Carol McLeod

Edena Williams PW of CITH
Reverend Mr. Donald E. Gordon, Pastor Emeritus