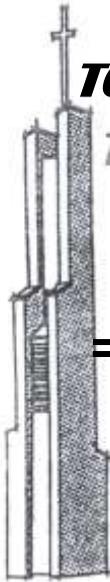


First Presbyterian Church
1803 - 83rd Street
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53143



TOWER TOPICS

Church Phone: 262-652-6838
Church e-mail: k1stpres@yahoo.com
Church Website: www.kenoshafpc.org
LANCE LOVEALL, Pastor

DATED MATERIAL

February 28, 2019



Join us on Wednesday evenings during Lent, starting on Wednesday, March 13th for soup suppers. We will gather in Fellowship Hall beginning at 6:00 p.m. for fellowship, soup, and devotions. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you would like to make soup.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

On March 1st Yellowstone National Park, the first U.S. national park, turns 147 years old. For over 147 years people have been enjoying the beauty and majesty of Yellowstone. For over 147 years people have been looking at the beauty of Yellowstone and have been moved by the power, creativity, and sovereignty of God.

In February I participated in the reading of ordination exams for the denomination. I was chosen to read theology exams that consisted of three subjects. One of those topics focused on how we know God – revelation. Revelation is God making Godself known to humanity. In particular, the question asked candidates to know the difference between general and special revelation. General revelation is the idea that within creation itself we can see and come to know the character of God. We may not be able to know about the redemption from sin we experience in Jesus Christ without the special revelation of Scripture, but we can look around at the splendor of creation and know God. From the largest expanse of galaxy where even light takes years to travel, to the smallest quantum particles, we experience God's amazing creativity. From mountains to plains, from forests to deserts, from oceans to river deltas, creation sings the wonders of God. Just think the beauty of Yellowstone that for the last 147 years has been declaring the greatness of God.

This week, however, I heard three stories about our use and abuse of creation that reminded me that in the face of God's gracious creativity, we see something to be exploited. First, a new ordinance, if it is signed by the Milwaukee mayor, would crack down on people littering and dumping trash within the city limits. It amazes me that we still need to be reminded that the earth is not our trash can where we can just throw trash wherever we feel like it. The second story was similar. It focused on China's efforts to clean up the basecamp area around Mount Everest because there are several tons of trash left there by climbers. Once again, even in the most majestic places on earth that shout to the glory of God, we dump our trash. The third story was about the ranking of cities worldwide that had the largest carbon footprint. Of course, those are just three stories amidst many, many stories from the human effects on climate change, to erosion concerns, to continued poaching of elephants in Africa. And in the face of these stories we can begin to feel like anything we do to be good stewards of creation will be insignificant. But stewardship of creation is not just a political hot button topic. It is not just about getting the most out of the earth's resources. It is about seeing in natural the self-disclosure of God and choosing to worship God in how we care for God's creation. It may seem like such a little thing, but it reflects the way we understand creation as God's and see God in the creative wonder of nature.

There is no one way to care for creation, but to not care for creation is to neglect God's world. We would not stand for it if people wanted to throw their trash around the church or pollute the grounds around the church in part because we see that not just as our space, but God's house. In a real way, the earth and all that is in it belongs to God and to love God is, in part, to care for creation. So perhaps, in this birthday month of Yellowstone National Park, we all might consider how to care for creation around us. Pick up some trash, think carefully about what you dump and what you recycle or dispose of carefully, or give to one of the many environmental agencies out there dedicated to protecting God's creation. Regardless of whether or not you choose to do anything differently this month, I hope you will take some time to look at the lake, enjoy the snow, view a sunset, and remember the love and creativity of God.

Lance

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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Called into being by God's grace, we are Christians in progress;

Called to grow together in God's ways through worship, study, fellowship, evangelism, and service;

Called to be servants of God's love to one another, to our community, and to the world.

We welcome all to our community of faith.

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SPECIAL OFFERINGS RECOGNITION

At the February meeting of the Presbytery of Milwaukee our congregation was given a certificate from the Presbyterian Mission Agency for our 4 for 4 participation in the special offerings of the denomination. We are one of only seventeen congregations out of the over 40 in the presbytery that collected all four special offerings. Thank you for your generosity and for participating in the special offerings. The next special offering will be the One Great Hour of Sharing, collected on Palm Sunday.

Treasurer's Report:

General Operating Fund

Beginning Balance 1/1/2019	\$45,242.89
Receipts	\$41,165.63
Disbursements	<u>\$26,565.64</u>
Ending Balance 1/31/2019	<u>\$59,842.88</u>

Building Reserve Fund

Beginning Balance 1/1/2019	\$59,485.15
Receipts	\$ 90.00
Disbursements	\$ 0.00
Interest	<u>\$ 4.97</u>
Ending Balance 1/31/2019	<u>\$59,580.12</u>

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## **SHALOM SOUP KITCHEN MINISTRY**

On February 5, 2019, eleven First Presbyterian volunteers served a large number of dinner guests at the 39th Avenue Shalom Center. There were 90 adults and 31 kids for a total of 121 served that night. That was the most guests we have served since the new location opened!

Our next date to serve dinner is Tuesday, March 5th. Darlene and Chris Doil have graciously offered to make the soup for March. If you are ever interested in making the soup, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. There is also a sign-up sheet for making cupcakes, sandwiches or serving dinner. Thanks for your support.

# DAILY LECTIONARY PASSAGES

## MARCH 2019

- Mar 1** – Psalm 88, 148, 6, 20; Ruth 3:1-18; 2 Cor. 4:1-12; Matt. 5:38-48
- Mar 2** – Psalm 122, 149, 100, 63; Ruth 4:1-22; 2 Cor. 4:13-5:10; Matt. 6:1-6
- Mar 3** - Psalm 103, 150, 117, 139; Dan. 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Cor. 3:1-9; John 12:27-36a
- Mar 4** – Psalm 5, 145, 82, 29; Deut. 6:1-15; Heb. 1:1-14; John 1:1-18
- Mar 5** – Psalm 42, 146, 102, 133; Deut. 6:16-25; Heb. 2:1-10; John 1:19-28
- Mar 6** - Psalm 5, 147:1-11, 27, 51; Jonah 3:1-4:11; Heb. 12:1-14; Luke 18:9-14
- Mar 7** - Psalm 27, 147:12-20, 126, 102; Deut. 7:6-11; Titus 1:1-16; John 1:29-34
- Mar 8** – Psalm 22, 148, 105, 130; Deut. 7:12-16; Titus 2:1-15; John 1:35-42
- Mar 9** – Psalm 43, 149, 31, 143; Deut. 7:17-26; Titus 3:1-15; John 1:43-51
- Mar 10** – Psalm 84, 150, 42, 32; Jer. 9:23-24; 1 Cor. 1:18-31; Mark 2:18-22
- Mar 11** - Psalm 119:73-80, 145, 121, 6; Deut. 8:1-20; Heb. 2:11-18; John 2:1-12
- Mar 12** – Psalm 34, 146, 25, 91; Deut. 9:4-12; Heb. 3:1-11; John 2:13-22
- Mar 13** – Psalm 5, 147:1-11, 27, 51; Deut. 9:13-21; Heb. 3:12-19; John 2:23-3:15
- Mar 14** – Psalm 27, 147:12-20, 126, 102; Deut. 9:23-10:5; Heb. 4:1-10; John 3:16-21
- Mar 15** – Psalm 22, 148, 105, 130; Deut. 10:12-22; Heb. 4:11-16; John 3:22-36
- Mar 16** – Psalm 43, 149, 31, 143; Deut. 11:18-28; Heb. 5:1-10; John 4:1-26
- Mar 17** - Psalm 84, 150, 42, 32; Jer. 1:1-10; 1 Cor. 3:11-23; Mark 3:31-4:9
- Mar 18** – Psalm 119:73-80, 145, 121, 6; Jer. 1:11-19; Rom. 1:1-15; John 4:27-42
- Mar 19** – Psalm 34, 146, 25, 91; Jer. 2:1-13, 29-32; Rom. 1:16-25; John 4:43-54
- Mar 20** - Psalm 5, 147:1-11, 27, 51; Jer. 3:6-18; Rom. 1:28-2:1; John 5:1-18
- Mar 21** – Psalm 27, 147:12-20, 126, 102; Jer. 4:9-10, 19-28; Rom. 2:12-24; John 5:19-29
- Mar 22** – Psalm 22, 148, 105, 130; Jer. 5:1-9; Rom. 2:25-3:18; John 5:30-47
- Mar 23** - Psalm 43, 149, 31, 143; Jer. 5:20-31; Rom. 3:19-31; John 7:1-13
- Mar 24** - Psalm 84, 150, 42, 32; Jer. 6:9-15; 1 Cor. 6:12-20; Mark 5:1-20
- Mar 25** – Psalm 119:73-80, 145, 121, 6; Jer. 7:1-15; Rom. 4:1-12; John 7:14-36
- Mar 26** – Psalm 34, 146, 25, 91; Jer. 7:21-34; Rom. 4:13-25; John 7:37-52
- Mar 27** – Psalm 5, 147:1-11, 27, 51; Jer. 8:4-7; Rom. 5:1-11; John 8:12-20
- Mar 28** – Psalm 27, 147:12-20, 126, 102; Jer. 10:11-24; Rom. 5:12-21; John 8:21-32
- Mar 29** – Psalm 22, 148, 105, 130; Jer. 11:1-8, 14-17; Rom. 6:1-11; John 8:33-47
- Mar 30** – Psalm 43, 149, 31, 143; Jer. 13:1-11; Rom. 6:12-23; John 8:47-59
- Mar 31** – Psalm 84, 150, 42, 32; Jer. 14:1-9 (10-16) 17-22; Gal. 4:21-5:1; Mark 8:11-21

## **SOUP KITCHEN**

On Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, our congregation is helping prepare and serve a nutritious meal for those in need at the Shalom Center Soup Kitchen. New volunteers are welcome. If you would like to help, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.

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FIRESIDE FRIENDS

Fireside Friends will meet on Tuesday, March 12th at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for an Irish Tea. Wear green if you have it! If you can, bring some very small tea sandwiches, bars, brownies or scones, etc. Anything you bring can be cut into small sizes. Also, if you'd like, again bring a different favorite tea cup or mug to use. We can share fellowship and "tea cup stories". If you have questions, contact Mary Wirch or Julie Iorio. Remember, all are invited to come join us at any time, any month.

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## **SENIOR LUNCHEONS**

Our senior luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. All seniors and guests are welcome. Please join us for delicious food and wonderful fellowship!

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PRAYER SHAWL

Prayer Shawl will meet on Wednesday, March 20th at 10:00 a.m. All knitters and crocheters are welcome!

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

Tower Topics
Kenosha, WI 53143
Issue #256

POTLUCK AND CIVIL WAR PRESENTATION - MARCH 15 @

NOON

The Mariners' Aft Watch is hosting a congregational and Mariners' event on Friday, March 15, with a potluck at noon, followed by a 1:00 p.m. Civil War presentation. Doug Dammann, Educational Coordinator of the Kenosha Public Museums, will give a presentation titled "If a Collection Could Talk." This interesting and exciting lecture focuses on personal stories associated with artifacts from the Civil War. Please bring a dish to pass, along with \$5 per person to be given to the educational programs of the Kenosha Public Museums. Please RSVP to Darlene Doil crisdoil@att.net, 262-694-0476, or Kathie Mandry dmandry@wi.rr.com, 262-694-9412. See you then.

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## **SYNOD SCHOOL**

It's that time of year to start thinking about a fun opportunity for study, fellowship and fun at Synod School, July 21 - 26 in Storm Lake, Iowa. This is an event for Presbyterians of all ages - babies to senior citizens. Families can attend together, or it's a great time for grandparents and grandkids to bond. Chapel time, classes, games, music, crafts, movies, discussion groups and did I mention great food fill the week. Last year about 26 of us attended; this year Lance and Paige lead the morning worship (that's a big deal, by the way). Sign up begins March 1, and early sign up is advised if you want a suite (vs. dorm room) and to get the classes of your choice. Catalog and reservations can be viewed online at [www.lakesandprairies.org/synodschool](http://www.lakesandprairies.org/synodschool). Hope we can have another great turnout this year.

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CHECK IT OUT

There is a new issue of Guideposts magazine on the library rack, and a new book order was just placed. I was very encouraged by the response to the last book order. Thanks for "checking it out"!

THANK YOU

John and Sara Miles want to thank all of the members of our congregation who have been so supportive during the past few weeks—praying, sending cards, giving flowers, providing meals and transportation, and showing us love and concern. It means a lot and encourages us when improvement doesn't come as quickly as we would like.

John will continue to be monitored for some time, and Sara's ankle is better and she is now preparing for a heart procedure. We are looking forward to that time when we can be worshiping with you and thank everyone personally. Until then, just know that we are grateful for your expressions of love and concern.

--John and Sara Miles

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## **DIRECTORY CHANGE**

Sara Miles will be using a new email address from now on. Please make a note of the new address and update your copy of the church directory. Sara can now be reached at [sjmiles1938@gmail.com](mailto:sjmiles1938@gmail.com).

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VBS

Molly Bergnach and Renee Brueckert have graciously agreed to head up VBS again for this year. They would, however, LOVE to have a third helper (since Aprille Laupan, their previous co-planner, is moving away) to help in planning and leading this summer. VBS is really a very fun time and means a lot to our children participants and youth helpers. Hopefully one of you adults out there would like to help Molly and Renee organize and lead VBS this summer.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 10th. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour!

JAM MINISTRY ON LEAVE

Yes, the Jam Ministry is inactive right now, but the mission needs addressed by the ministry haven't gone away. Perhaps it is time for a Lenten Challenge? No outrageous figure like those \$2,000 that we almost made in December before we cleared our shelves. Just a challenge to give towards missions in general or South Sudanese children and schools, in particular, during the Lenten season.

And there is an added reason to be giving over the next few weeks. Westminster Minneapolis is again adding to any gift for South Sudan, and a note from Presbyterian World Mission announces yet another matching grant opportunity:

“Give now to the life-giving ministries of mission co-workers...and have your gift matched. You can double the impact of your gift, thanks to a group of committed World Mission donors who have agreed to match gifts to World Mission up to \$50,000 between now and Easter Sunday. This means that your gift of \$50 today will leverage another \$50 to support all mission co-workers. Or perhaps you can give \$500, which will become \$1,000 when matched.”

So, whether it is for mission-work in general or South Sudan in particular, please prayerfully consider giving up a treat or two each week and giving to missions over and above the church budget. Mark your gifts “Jam Ministry – South Sudan” or “Jam Ministry – Missions” and they will be forwarded to World Mission

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## **WELCOME**

Starting on February 24<sup>th</sup> we welcomed our newest employee, Laurel Borter. Laurel is our new accompanist. We are excited to have her with us to lead worship with her music. We also extend a heartfelt thank you to Judy Wynstra who has been volunteering her time and talent since early September. Thank you, Judy, for sharing your skills for so long. It is greatly appreciated.

## **PARISH NURSE NOTES**

Anyone else tired of this seemingly never-ending winter with the succession of snow, ice, sleet, freezing rain, and very little sunshine? We can all get a little down in spirit when it is so gloomy for so long. Work hard to find something positive in each day—after all, you did wake up, so don't waste this day you've been given! Call someone and brighten their day, write a letter, clean out a drawer, plan Easter dinner, read your Bible, sing....you will be amazed at how much better you will feel.

I was thinking about Lance's recent sermon about treating others the way you would like to be treated....and my mind kept returning to being listened to, really listened to by others. So often when talking to someone who is explaining something or relating an experience, we turn the conversation around to be about us instead—I've heard it done time and time again (and I'm as guilty as anyone else!). Someone is talking about something that happened to them, and we jump in with "Oh, I know just what you mean! That happened to me once, and blah, blah, blah...., or you should hear what happened to my kids...." The other person is silenced by this, and off we go talking about us or our kids, and the moment is lost. People need affirmation that what they are going through and sharing is important. Focus on them! Don't interrupt, don't fidget, don't glance around at whatever else is going on. You can share your experiences at another time. Truly listen!

I guess I'm on a soapbox. Next on my list is passing of the peace time. Have you ever noticed that very often the person shaking your hand isn't even looking at you, but looking for the next hand to reach for? Try looking the person in the eye, sincerely meaning the words you use to pass peace, and only then, looking for the next person. This isn't a contest to see who can shake the most hands or give the most hugs. Think about it.

OK, that's over.

Watch for plans for the seated exercise sessions. This can't start until the weather calms down a little, so that people feel safe coming out. In the meantime, keep moving around the house—walk during commercials on TV, or while praying, or in time to the music you are listening to. Eat well and get enough sleep!

Blessings to all.

Karen Sorenson, Parish Nurse



## March Birthdays

- 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... Steve Azuma
- ..... Janet Griffin
- 4<sup>th</sup> ..... San Kennedy
- 5<sup>th</sup> ..... Eddie Piehl
- 9<sup>th</sup> ..... Erika Elmblad
- 10<sup>th</sup> ..... Jan Brandes
- 11<sup>th</sup> ..... Delbert Wollert
- ..... Dave Hamelink
- 14<sup>th</sup> ..... Dorothy Thompson
- ..... Nancy Lang
- 19<sup>th</sup> ..... Muriel Cunningham
- 21<sup>st</sup> ..... Wyatt Djuplin
- 23<sup>rd</sup> ..... Benjamin Hufendick
- 24<sup>th</sup> ..... Don Quist
- 25<sup>th</sup> ..... Harold Piehl

### DEACONS

Tana Baldwin, Lori Barnes, Sherry Craig, Teddi Griffin, Lisa Hawley, Penny Ingraham\*, Brenda Langerman, Nancy McGovern

### WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| February 3     | 147 |
| February 10    | 138 |
| February 17    | 104 |
| February 24    | 128 |
| Sunday Average | 129 |



## ANNIVERSARIES March

- 17<sup>th</sup> ..... Lois & Tom Van Dahm
- 26<sup>th</sup> ..... Sara & John Miles

### SESSION

- Gary Anderson (Fellowship, Memorial)
- Kelly Andrichik (Worship & Music, Personnel\*, Nominating\*)
- Scott Barnes (Building & Grounds)
- Sandra Billingsley (Christian Education\*, Mission\*)
- Mark Bourque (Building & Grounds\*)
- Walter Deignan (Building & Grounds, Nominating)
- Cris Doil (Stewardship & Finance\*)
- Marcy Hufendick (Christian Ed, Personnel, Memorial)
- Shari Infante (Fellowship\*, Mission, Memorial)
- Ron Meinhardt (Worship and Music\*)
- Leslie Pottorff (Mission, Fellowship, Personnel, Memorial)
- Jodi Prince (Fellowship and Membership)

( ) indicates committee assignments; \* indicates Team Leaders



# MARCH WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE



Head Usher: Jourene Frederick

## March 3<sup>rd</sup>

N. Door Greeter: Teddi Griffin  
Greeters: The Kesslers  
Reader: Carole Serpe  
Sound System: Walter Deignan  
Counters: Todd Kotten  
Ed Schiller  
Nursery Helper: Markie Peroutka  
Fellowship Host: Fellowship Team

## March 10<sup>th</sup>

N. Door Greeter: Nancy McGovern  
Greeters: The Kings  
Reader: Sandy Billingsley  
Sound System: Todd Kotten  
Counters: Todd Kotten  
Ed Schiller  
Nursery Helper: Molly Bergnach  
Fellowship Host: Fellowship Team

## March 17<sup>th</sup>

N. Door Greeter: Sherry Craig  
Greeters: Margo Klobuchar  
Reader: Tyler Peroutka  
Sound System: Don Mandry

## March 17<sup>th</sup> (cont'd)

Counters: Todd Kotten  
Ed Schiller  
Nursery Helper: Deb Kovachik  
Fellowship Host: Fireside Friends

## March 24<sup>th</sup>

N. Door Greeter: Brenda Langerman  
Greeters: The Koessers  
Reader: Jacob Loveall  
Sound System: Tyler Peroutka  
Counters: Todd Kotten  
Ed Schiller  
Nursery Helper: Linda Putrow  
Fellowship Host: Fellowship Team

## March 31<sup>st</sup>

N. Door Greeter: Brenda Langerman  
Greeters: The Kottens  
Reader: Lance Loveall  
Sound System: Tom Berry  
Counters: Todd Kotten  
Ed Schiller  
Nursery Helper: Kortnie Ruth  
Fellowship Host: Mariners

**THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS**