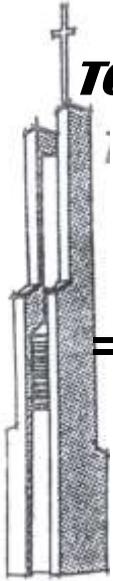


*First Presbyterian Church*  
1803 - 83<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53143



## ***TOWER TOPICS***

Church Phone: 262-652-6838  
Church e-mail: [k1stpres@yahoo.com](mailto:k1stpres@yahoo.com)  
Church Website: [www.kenoshafpc.org](http://www.kenoshafpc.org)  
**LANCE LOVEALL, Pastor**

***DATED MATERIAL***

January 2, 2018

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**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018**  
**11:00 A.M. (in the Sanctuary)**



## **FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Who created Frankenstein's monster? Of course, the answer is Dr. Victor Frankenstein, at least according to the book published in 1818 by Mary Shelley.

Indeed, Dr. Frankenstein in an experiment in the natural sciences did assemble and animate the being, but something else entirely turned it into the monster we think of. In the book the creature recounts his story to Dr. Frankenstein. After being driven out of the lab by the doctor, the creature ran away, hiding in the wilderness. He learned how to survive and eventually found a poor French family that he watched from a distance and came to love. After quite a long period of providing for them in secret, learning their language, coming to know their story and love them deeply as family, he decided to show himself to them. He started with the blind father, but as he was explaining himself the children came into the cabin and drove him out as a monster. From that day on he became the murderous monster they thought him to be. So, though Dr. Frankenstein created the creature, it was the French family that made the monster.

I read this book around Halloween and was struck by the point above. It reminded me of a section from a sermon written by C.S. Lewis called "The Weight of Glory." In the sermon Lewis writes the following:

*A cleft has opened in the pitiless walls of the world, and we are invited to follow our great Captain inside. The following Him is, of course, the essential point. That being so, it may be asked what practical use there is in the speculations which I have been indulging. I can think of at least one such use. It may be possible for each to think too much of his own potential glory hereafter; it is hardly possible for him to think too often or too deeply about that of his neighbour. The load, or weight, or burden of my neighbour's glory should be laid daily on my back, a load so heavy that only humility can carry it, and the backs of the proud will be broken. It is a serious thing to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest and most uninteresting person you talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted*

*to worship, or else a horror and a corruption such as you now meet, if at all, only in a nightmare. All day long we are, in some degree, helping each other to one or other of these destinations. It is in the light of these overwhelming possibilities, it is with the awe and the circumspection proper to them, that we should conduct all our dealings with one another, all friendships, all loves, all play, all politics. There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal.*

His point is that in our interaction with other people we help to bring out in them the best God intended for them to be, or the worst in them. Our model of Christ's love, or the lack of it, our patience, kindness, generosity, and grace, or the lack of those things helps

each person we come across find the glory of a life with Christ, or shows a hypocrisy and a set of values that turns them away.

As we prepare for the new year and make our resolutions and think seriously of the person we want to be, consider not just who you want to be. Spend some time considering the weight of your neighbor's glory and who you would have them become this year.

*Lance*

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**Treasurer's Report:**

General Operating Fund

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Beginning Balance 11/1/2017 | \$48,287.20        |
| Receipts                    | \$32,004.84        |
| Disbursements               | <u>\$30,235.29</u> |
| Ending Balance 11/30/2017   | <u>\$50,056.75</u> |

Building Reserve Fund

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Beginning Balance 11/1/2017 | \$40,769.35        |
| Receipts                    | \$ 1,169.60        |
| Disbursements               | \$ 0.00            |
| Interest                    | <u>\$ 1.70</u>     |
| Ending Balance 11/30/2017   | <u>\$41,940.65</u> |

## **SESSION NOTES**

- Called the Congregational Meeting for January 21, 2018
- Approved the 2018 budget with one amendment regarding per capita
- The new copier is installed in the office and working well
- Lance met with Sara Miles regarding the job description for Commissioned Ruling Elder
- Discussed the activities to attract and educate volunteers for various church activities

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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.

# Deacon's Ministry

**Shalom Center Food Ministry:** The first Tuesday of the month we volunteer for soup kitchen, except for the months of April and November. Please sign up, so we know how many are coming. On December 5, our volunteers served 120 people. Thank you John Infante and the Souper Stars for making the soup, all the volunteers and the bakers that made cupcakes. Our next soup kitchen is January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Souper Stars are making the soup on Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. In December we collected 8 bags of groceries. Our next Deacons Food Collection is January 7<sup>th</sup>. The soup kitchen is in the new location on 39<sup>th</sup> Ave. The soup may be made at church or home or at the soup kitchen. We do need volunteers for soup makers for 2018. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. The Super Stars are willing to help, guide or answer any questions. Soup recipes are available if you choose to make the soup by yourself. Please contact Carole Serpe. The new coordinators are Brenda Langerman and Julie Iorio.

**Chains of Prayer:** Call Judy Wynstra at 262-605-1127 if you have a prayer request. If she is not home leave a message. She will make sure your request is taken care of. If you would like to be part of the prayer chain please contact Judy.

**Card Ministry:** The Deacons send cards to members who cannot join us Sundays in church, as well as those who may sick, hospitalized for some reason, or are going through some rough times and need support. Please contact Tana Baldwin if you know of someone who needs a card. Donations of cards are appreciated. You may put any donations in Tana's mailbox. If you would like someone to call you, serve you communion, or visit, please let us know.

**Local Missions:** Deacons will discuss some local missions that could use our help.

**Snowman Mitten Barrel:** Jane Frost is in charge of the "Snowman" collection site for mittens, gloves, hats and scarves to be delivered after Christmas to various schools. Cash donations are also accepted to purchase some items. If you have any questions, please contact Jane.

**Our next meeting TBA.**

## DAILY LECTIONARY PASSAGES

### JANUARY 2018

- Jan 1** – Psalm 98, 145, 99, 8; Isa. 62:1-5, 10-12; Rev. 19:11-16; Matt. 1:18-25
- Jan 2** – Psalm 48, 146, 9, 29; 1 Kings 19:1-8; Eph. 4:1-16; John 6:1-14
- Jan 3** - Psalm 111, 147:1-11, 107, 15; 1 Kings 19:9-18; Eph. 4:17-32; John 6:15-27
- Jan 4** – Psalm 20, 147:12-20, 93, 97; Josh. 3:14-4:7; Eph. 5:1-20; John 9:1-12
- Jan 5** – Psalm 99, 148, 96, 110; Jonah 2:2-9; Eph. 6:10-20; John 11:17-27
- Jan 6** - Psalm 72, 149, 100, 67; Isa. 49:1-7; Rev. 21:22-27; Matt. 12:14-21
- Jan 7** - Psalm 104, 150, 29; Gen. 1:1-2:3; Eph. 1:3-14; John 1:29-34
- Jan 8** – Psalm 5, 145, 82, 29; Gen. 2:4-9; Heb. 1:1-14; John 1:1-18
- Jan 9** – Psalm 42, 146, 102, 133; Gen. 3:1-24; Heb. 2:1-10; John 1:19-28
- Jan 10** – Psalm 89:1-18, 147:1-11, 1, 33; Gen. 4:1-16; Heb. 2:11-18; John 1:35-42
- Jan 11** - Psalm 97, 147:12-20, 16, 62; Gen. 4:17-26; Heb. 3:1-11; John 1:43-51
- Jan 12** – Psalm 51, 148, 142, 65; Gen. 6:1-8; Heb. 3:12-19; John 2:1-12
- Jan 13** – Psalm 104, 149, 138, 98; Gen. 6:9-22; Heb. 4:1-13; John 2:13-22
- Jan 14** – Psalm 19, 150, 81, 113; Gen. 7:1-10,17-23; Eph. 4:1-16; Mark 3:7-19
- Jan 15** – Psalm 135, 145, 97, 112; Gen. 8:6-22; Heb. 4:14-5:6; John 2:23-3:15
- Jan 16** – Psalm 123, 146, 30, 86; Gen. 9:1-17; Heb. 5:7-14; John 3:16-21
- Jan 17** - Psalm 15, 147:1-11, 48, 4; Gen. 9:18-29; Heb. 6:1-12; John 3:22-36
- Jan 18** – Psalm 36, 147:12-20, 80, 27; Gen. 11:1-9; Heb. 6:13-20; John 4:1-15
- Jan 19** – Psalm 130, 148, 32, 139; Gen. 11:27-12:8; Heb. 7:1-17; John 4:16-26
- Jan 20** - Psalm 56, 149, 118, 111; Gen. 12:9-13:1; Heb. 7:18-28; John 4:27-42
- Jan 21** – Psalm 67, 150, 46, 93; Gen. 13:2-18; Gal. 2:1-10; Mark 7:31-37
- Jan 22** – Psalm 57, 145, 85, 47; Gen. 14:8-24; Heb. 8:1-13; John 4:43-54
- Jan 23** - Psalm 54, 146, 28, 99; Gen. 15:1-11,17-21; Heb. 9:1-14; John 5:1-18
- Jan 24** - Psalm 65, 147:1-11, 125, 91; Gen. 16:1-14; Heb. 9:15-28; John 5:19-29
- Jan 25** – Psalm 143, 147:12-20, 81, 116; Gen. 16:15-17:14; Heb. 10:1-10; John 5:30-47
- Jan 26** – Psalm 88, 148, 6, 20; Gen. 17:15-27; Heb. 10:11-25; John 6:1-15
- Jan 27** – Psalm 122, 149, 100, 63; Gen. 18:1-16; Heb. 10:26-39; John 6:16-27
- Jan 28** – Psalm 108, 150, 66, 23; Gen. 18:16-33; Gal. 5:13-25; Mark 8:22-30
- Jan 29** – Psalm 62, 145, 73, 9; Gen. 19:1-17; Heb. 11:1-12; John 6:27-40
- Jan 30** – Psalm 12, 146, 36, 7; Gen. 21:1-21; Heb. 11:13-22; John 6:41-51
- Jan 31** – Psalm 96, 147:1-11, 132, 134; Gen. 22:1-18; Heb. 11:23-31; John 6:52-59

## **FIRESIDE FRIENDS**

Fireside Friends will take our usual winter break in January, but we hope to see you at our meeting in February. If you would like (and weather permitting), meet us for coffee and fellowship at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at McDonald's on south Sheridan Rd. It will be very informal. Also, if you haven't had a chance yet, Durkee Mansion is still open for the Holiday Decorations the first two weekends in January, 1:30 – 4:00 p.m. Come see the birds for "Woodland Birds & Berries". If you have questions, contact Mary Wirch or Julie Iorio.

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## **SENIOR LUNCHEONS**

Our senior luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16<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 at church on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. All knitters and crocheters welcome!

## **WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

December 3	163
December 10	161
December 17	221
December 24	143
December 31	114
Sunday Average	160

## **HELPING HANDS**

Do you need a little extra help? The Helping Hands program offers various types of assistance to our members. Contact Donna Bauman to see if we can help.

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## **SOUP KITCHEN**

On Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</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.

## CLOSING OUT A GREAT YEAR FOR THE JAM MINISTRY

What a tremendous month for the Jam Ministry! Since we were close to last year's record giving of \$5,000 to help the Roma children in Ukraine, we needed a new challenge. With the Christmas Gift Bags available and some new jellies and jams, as well as new batches of earlier ones, you were asked to donate and take jams for \$1,000 in December. And you did it! You gave over \$1,000 for our 4-S: *Support South Sudan Schools* Project. What a wonderful witness to caring for the least fortunate in the second poorest country in the world. On their behalf, thank you!

So, by Christmas Day, Kenosha First Presbyterian had sent a check for \$3,500 to Presbyterian World Mission, ear-marked for their South Sudan Education and Peace-Making Project. With our previous check for \$2,500, this meant that we have donated \$6,000 to help the children of South Sudan in 2017. Moreover, thanks to a matching grant, our gift was worth far more than that. Amazing!

But we weren't finished. Prompted by a visit to the Shalom Center to drop off a single jar of jam for someone, John thought it might be good to give some jam to the families in the Shalom Inn, the residence for homeless families awaiting resettlement. Through e-mail correspondence, we learned that the children in the Inn would receive Christmas gifts, but the ten adults would get nothing. So the Jam Ministry asked you to give again! Some gave items that were on the list of small "desirables" (socks, gloves, toiletries, etc.), others gave cash, and one family gave considerable checks for this new project. As a result, we were able to do far more than originally planned. The photo below (also on the church Facebook and web site) shows the large filled gift bags containing clothing and gift cards for gas and food taken to the Shalom Center. A joyful Christmas indeed.

The Mission Team will finalize its decision about the project to adopt for 2018, though we are leaning towards helping children again, through the educational system of the Presbyterian partners in Madagascar, a part of Africa but actually a large island off the southeastern coast. Meanwhile the jam ministry will go into a hiatus, while you empty the many jars you have donated for and bring them back to be refilled with lovely new jam!



## **PARISH NURSE NOTES**

Happy New Year to all! It usually feels good to have a fresh start with a new year, and I am sure many of us spent some time making resolutions for this upcoming year. All of these are made with the best of intentions.....and most are abandoned by the end of February! Some are not realistic (“I’m going to lose 50# by Valentine’s Day”), or too vague (“I will be nicer to my family”). Here are a few suggestions for types of resolutions that might be easier to keep: “I will make at least one positive comment to each family member every day”, “I will eat three servings of fruit every day”, “(Name) is going through a difficult time--I will send her/him a short note every week”, “I will call one person on the deacons’ shut-in list every week”, or “I will count to ten any time I feel like making an angry response to something someone has said to me.” Give it a try!

More and more studies are showing that there is a strong association between the quality of sleep and health outcomes. Recommendations that can improve sleep include:

- Being consistent with the times that you go to bed each night and get up the next morning--including weekends.
- Making sure your bedroom is quiet, dark, relaxing, and at a comfortable temperature (on the cool side).
- Avoiding large meals, caffeine, and alcohol before bedtime. Alcohol may help you get to sleep faster, but you may wake up in the middle of the night, unable to get back to sleep.
- Getting some exercise during the day can help you fall asleep at night. Sitting in a chair all day, watching TV, won’t!
- Removing electronic devices, such as TVs, computers, e-readers, and smart phones from your bedroom. This goes for children and teenagers, too!
- Keeping yourself occupied during the day. Inactivity can lead to dozing off, and this can affect your nighttime sleep. Knit, read, try something new like painting, bake something for your neighbors, clean a closet, write a haiku....

Sweet dreams to all! *Zzzzzzzz.....*

Blessings to all,  
Karen Sorenson, Parish Nurse

★HAPPY★  
BIRTHDAY!

**January**  
**Birthdays**

3<sup>rd</sup> ..... Nancy McGovern  
4<sup>th</sup> ..... Heather Kotten  
10<sup>th</sup> ..... Jody Armstrong  
13<sup>th</sup> ..... Maddie Berry  
15<sup>th</sup> ..... Lindsey Brandes  
17<sup>th</sup> ..... LeAnn Kotten  
21<sup>st</sup> ..... Lee West  
23<sup>rd</sup> ..... Ross Kotten  
31<sup>st</sup> ..... Emily Elmsblad

**DEACONS**

Tana Baldwin, Lori Barnes, Sherry Craig, Jane Frost, Lisa Hawley, Penny Ingraham, Brenda Langerman, Nancy McGovern, Carole Serpe



**ANNIVERSARIES**  
**January**

21<sup>st</sup> ..... Harold & Marcy Piehl

**SESSION**

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

( ) indicates committee assignments; \*indicates Team Leaders



# **JANUARY WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**



Head Usher: Alan Frederick

## **January 7<sup>th</sup>**

N. Door Greeter: Nancy McGovern  
Greeters: Karen Sorenson  
Reader: Benjamin Hufendick  
Sound System: Jerry Jones  
Counters: Miriam Johnson

Nursery Helper: Mandy Bergeson  
Fellowship Host: Fellowship Team

## **January 14<sup>th</sup>**

N. Door Greeter: Penny Ingraham  
Greeters: The Spottswoods  
Reader: Bob LeFebve  
Sound System: Todd Kotten  
Counters: Miriam Johnson

Nursery Helper: Jamie Davis  
Fellowship Host: Fellowship Team

## **January 21<sup>st</sup>**

N. Door Greeter: Kathy Anderson  
Greeters: Janice Steinseifer  
Reader: Jacob Loveall  
Sound System: Don Mandry  
Counters:

Nursery Helper: Molly Bergnach  
Fellowship Host: Fireside Friends

## **January 28<sup>th</sup>**

N. Door Greeter: Julie Iorio  
Greeters: The Stitches  
Reader: Barbara Cooper  
Sound System: Tom Berry  
Counters:

Nursery Helper: Markie Peroutka  
Fellowship Host: Mariiners

**THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS**