



The Portage Presbyterian

A newsletter for The Portage Presbyterian Family

August 2019



"And you thought you were having a bad hair day."

MAKE A DIFFERENCE - BE A GREETER?

Imagine what it might be like to be at PPC for the very first time!

That is the purpose for having "greeters" on Sunday mornings for worship.

This is an important ministry opportunity as we seek to reach out and welcome visitors into this church community.

We believe PPC is a wonderful, warm and caring community of God's people. And we want others to experience that which we have found here.

And we are seeking "volunteers" to sign-up to help collect the offering during worship.

But, in order to make this work we need your help!!!

There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in Parry Hall.

Please indicate your preference to help provide this important ministry here @ PPC.

Thank you!

PORTAGE SUMMER LUNCH FOR KIDS

The "Portage Summer Lunch for Kids" program is off and running again this summer.

We serve meals at 4 sites: *Portage Public Library; Goodyear Park (Splash Pad); Lincoln Park; and Sanborn Park.*

So far this summer we are serving an average of 100 meals each day!

If you are interested in helping, please go to the UW-Extension website

<https://columbia.extension.wisc.edu/summer-lunch-program/interested-in-volunteering/>

then go to the "Summer Meal" tab which will drop down a link to register as a volunteer and a link to "sign up" for a site and day.

Come and help make a difference in the lives of young people in the Portage community.

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Dave.

Thank you!

MEAL AT THE FAIR

On July 24th we hosted a very successful Meal at the Fair. We served chicken, pork and beef sandwiches along with cold slaw, potato salad, chips, cookies and a bottle of pop. A special thanks goes out to Kevin Foster who coordinated the event with the Fair board and secured some of the food for us and Elaine & John Crammond who made the great shredded beef. It was a very nice evening which brought out many people. Thank you to all who came and helped that day, made cookies, prayed for our success or came and ate the meal. We couldn't have done this without everyone's help. Thanks so much for the "in kind" donations that were received. We made a **profit of \$1,013.65** that has been donated to the general operating budget of our church.

"SHARING SUPPER" – AUGUST 26, 2019

The "Sharing Supper" will be shared on Monday, August 26!!!

Serving begins at 5:00 p.m. **at the Bartels Middle School cafeteria.**

The "Sharing Supper" is served from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

"Sharing Supper" is a meal, sponsored by community groups and organizations. It is intended to bring people in the community together, around tables, where we get to know one another and have an opportunity to learn more about what is happening in the community around us.

A unique part of this experience is the "Kid's Corner" designed especially for the younger folks. Here young people will have a chance to hear stories and do craft projects related to what is happening around us.

All are welcome! Bring your friends and neighbors.

Come and share in this unique and wonderful experience – on **August 26 @ 5:00 p.m.**

"HABITAT FOR HUMANITY" NEWS

"Habitat for Humanity in Columbia County" has just been approved to do "aging in place" modifications to homes.

If there is anyone who needs ramps or shower bars, anything to allow them to stay in their home, they should apply!

THE PORTAGE PRESBYTERIAN

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UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 4, 2019

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Sunday, August 11, 2019

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, August 18, 2019

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 a.m. - *"Informal" Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, August 25, 2019

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Don't forget - our Sunday morning worship services begin @ 9:30 a.m. - through Sunday, September 1.

Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to come and share with us over the summer months - in a place that is "prayer conditioned."



COMMUNITY VBS COMING SOON!!!

From August 5-9 young people from 4 years of age through 6th grade are invited to "Roar!"

Four churches are coming together to offer this unique community Vacation Bible School experience, which will be held at the Portage United Methodist Church - *Portage United Methodist, St. Mary's Catholic, Bethlehem Lutheran and PPC.*

New this year is an "online site" where you can get more information, register and volunteer. Please check it out at ...

<https://sites.google.com/view/portage-area-vbs-2019/home>

Costs for "Roar" are \$10.00 / child or a fee of \$25.00 / family.

Come and hang out for a wild and fun time as we learn more about God's love for all of us.

GOD at WORK???

"What is God's vision - What is God's dream for PPC?"

Here's what has been added to the "board" since we began in July:

- Walk with and serve others
- Lead by example
- Love as Christians - love one another
- Community
- New ways to study the Bible and Christian books. Sharing with each other
- Teach the youth that they may know God's love and share with us all
- A welcome with that handshake and a great smile
- Community outreach
- Follow
- Space
- To be innovative and creative in the ways we think about church and about how we serve our greater community. To dream God-sized dreams

This is a great start to our sharing of what we discern as "God's vision for PPC." Thank you!

I cannot speak for anyone else, but I do find it quite a bit more challenging to consider what "God's vision" for PPC might be than what "my ideas" could be. For me it is much easier to share "my" ideas, suggestions, viewpoints and opinions.

But how can we possibly answer this from God's perspective? Here are some ideas that I am using that you may find helpful:

We can consider what God has done before in leading God's people. Our Scripture lessons which are available in this newsletter and at the board in Parry Hall provide for us a foundation of better understanding of God's interaction with God's people.

We can pray. Prayer is a way of opening our hearts and minds and lives to God's presence and God's leading. Praying with the Scripture lessons in mind or praying for this process of listening or praying for those "items" which have been tacked on the board or praying for PPC are all good ways to listen for God's moving in our midst.

We can talk together. We will have times after each of our worship services in August to sit and visit about "God's vision." This will be a simple opportunity to share what we are discerning and to listen to what others are thinking.

And we can trust. Trust that God is indeed at work in all of this reading and praying and listening and sharing. Trust that God still has a purpose for this church community and that God is not finished with us yet! And trust that what we find or discover in this journey will be what God needs us to learn or where God needs us to be.

The "board" will continue to be here in Parry Hall for us to make notes about what we are discovering as we ask the question "what is God's vision - what are God's dreams for PPC."

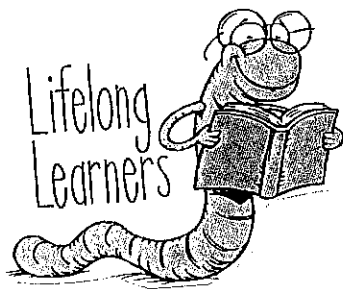
Take time this summer to stop and read what is there. Take time this summer to pray for God's direction, guidance and inspiration. Take time this summer to pray for and with each other as we listen and discern and learn.

If you cannot be here and would like to know about the cards that are there, contact the church office or Pastor Dave - we can share with you what has been added to the "board."

If you would like to add something to the "board" but will not be here for a time, contact the church office and we will add your "note."

Remember - there are no "wrong answers" to this question. Each note, each conversation, each prayer will be those ideas and clues which God will provide for us to follow.

May God lead, inspire and surprise us as we pray, listen, discern and learn about God's vision - God's dream for PPC.



READING "NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH?"

If you are interested in reading and discussing "Neighborhood Church - Transforming Your Congregation Into A Powerhouse For Mission." together as a church community please contact the Church Office soon.

We are hoping to start the "reading and discussion" groups in September.

The cost for the book is \$13.00. There are scholarships available.

So, if you are interested, let us know ...

- ✧ Call the Church Office @742-2752
- ✧ Email -
pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com
- ✧ Sign-Up on the sheet in Parry Hall.

Once we know who is interested, we will establish the "times" for discussion groups. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Dave.



KWIK TRIP "CAR WASH" CARDS -

Let your vehicle shine like the summer sun!!!

You can have a clean vehicle and help support PPC's "mission trippers" at the same time when you purchase Kwik Trip "Ultimate" Car Wash cards.

Each card has FIVE car washes on it.

If you were to purchase these at the store, they would cost \$50.00 (\$10.00/wash)

But, the Mission Trippers are selling these cards for the price of \$36.00 / card.

For each card sold the "mission trippers" earn \$16.00!

If you are interested in purchasing cards, contact the Church Office. Thanks!

FOR REFLECTION - "VISIONS & DREAMS"

Here are a few Scripture lessons you may use for your prayer, reflection and discussion as you dare to ask the question - "what is God's vision - what is God's dream for PPC?"

- ✧ Matthew 28:19-20
- ✧ Acts 1:6-8
- ✧ Joshua 1:9
- ✧ I Kings 19:11-15
- ✧ Jeremiah 1:4-10
- ✧ Matthew 6:25-33
- ✧ Isaiah 42:5-9
- ✧ Mark 6:30-49
- ✧ Isaiah 61:1-2
- ✧ II Corinthians 9:10-15
- ✧ Isaiah 55
- ✧ I Samuel 3:1-10
- ✧ Acts 2:1-4

These Scripture lessons are intended to provide a foundation as we begin to pray, reflect and discuss. Use these lessons in any way that enables you to best to listen for God as we dare to ask the question of God's vision and dreams for this church community.

If you have other Scripture lessons that you would like to suggest, just email Pastor Dave and we will add them to the list.

MINISTRY AND WORSHIP @ TIVOLI

PPC is blessed to provide a monthly worship service at Tivoli.

We have found that our worship service is one of the better attended worship times – and that is great news!

We are looking for additional people to come and help get people to and from the chapel.

You will have the opportunity to share in a special worship experience as well as being able to interact with some very nice people. Chaplain Monica remarks how much the residents enjoy having people come and share worship with them.

If you could help with this ministry once in a while, contact Pastor Dave.

NOTE! We share worship on the Monday August 19th ... @10:00 a.m.

"TOUCHED TWICE" VOLUNTEERS

Greetings,

Well that time of year is here "or soon will be", when all of our Churches in Columbia County come together in one way or another to serve our community through the Touched Twice clinic on September 21st.

An event of this size takes much planning and many volunteers to meet the needs of our communities. This event is much bigger than one individual or church could ever handle. We are looking to serve over 400 individuals and families with much needed medical, dental, physical, food and spiritual needs this year. With that being said, we would like for you to consider sending a group or individuals from your congregation to help volunteer in the following areas:

- Prayer
- Fundraising
- Coordinators
- Check-in
- Security
- Pastoral Care
- Parking
- Childcare
- Graphic Design
- Media
- Setup/Tear down
- Advocates
- Concessions
- Transportation

If you interested, contact Pastor Justin O'Boyle at City of Refuge Church either by phone at 742-4035 ... or by email at cityofrefugepastor@gmail.com

Thank you for your time and consideration.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

HARVEST DINNER

NOVEMBER 9TH !!!

TRY "SCRIP" - YOU'LL LOVE IT!

Scrip Fundraising is here @ PPC!

And it is EASY!!!

Scrip fundraising is a no selling program that enable members and friends of the Portage Presbyterian Church to participate in.

Scrip gift cards are the same gift cards you can purchase from the retailer. With over 300 of the Country's biggest brands, including grocery, department stores, gas stations, restaurants and home improvement and by planning ahead on everyday purchases the Women's Association will profit!

Examples of gift cards in our area are: *Festival Foods, Piggy Wiggly, Walmart, Walgreens, Subway, Cracker Barrel, BP Gas Stations, Kwik Trip, Mobil, Applebee's, Bath & Body Works, Amazon.....and so many more.*

Questions???? Contact Elaine Crammond at 742-3899 or 608 215-8899.

This is an ongoing fundraising program that will be available year round.

Consider our new approach and help us reach our mission goals!

An "order sheet" is included with the newsletter and also are available in Parry Hall!

2019 Per Capita Information

Our 2019 "Per Capita" amount is **\$32.60** for each active member.

Please take a moment to drop off your Per Capita (*for each member*) on Sunday morning, in the mail or by stopping by the church office.

If you have a number of members in your household, you do not have to pay for everyone at one time. Pay as you can.

Also, we appreciate those who choose to make a donation on behalf of someone or as a gift to PPC which helps us cover our church's total.

If you have questions, please contact the Church Office. Thank you!

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS!

Thanks to all who donated pies for the Concert at the Park on June 19th.

Thanks to all who donated food and worked for the funeral of Phyllis Balliet on July 12th.

We will be hosting the Fall Workshop for John Knox Presbyterian Women on Saturday, September 28th. We will need workers. You could also attend and enjoy the day.

Our next meeting will be September 14th at 9:00 a.m. at Dino's.

UPCOMING FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

After Labor Day we will embark on a new worship schedule here at PPC.

Well, actually it is our "old" worship schedule that we had last year.

On Sunday, September 8 our Sunday worship services will return to their 10:05 a.m. time.

Wednesday, September 4 will be the first of our "Wed Nite @ PPC" worship services at 6:05 p.m.

Please note: our "Summer" Sunday morning worship services at 9:30 a.m. will continue through September 1.

A.C.T.S. LOOKING 2 BEGIN THIS FALL

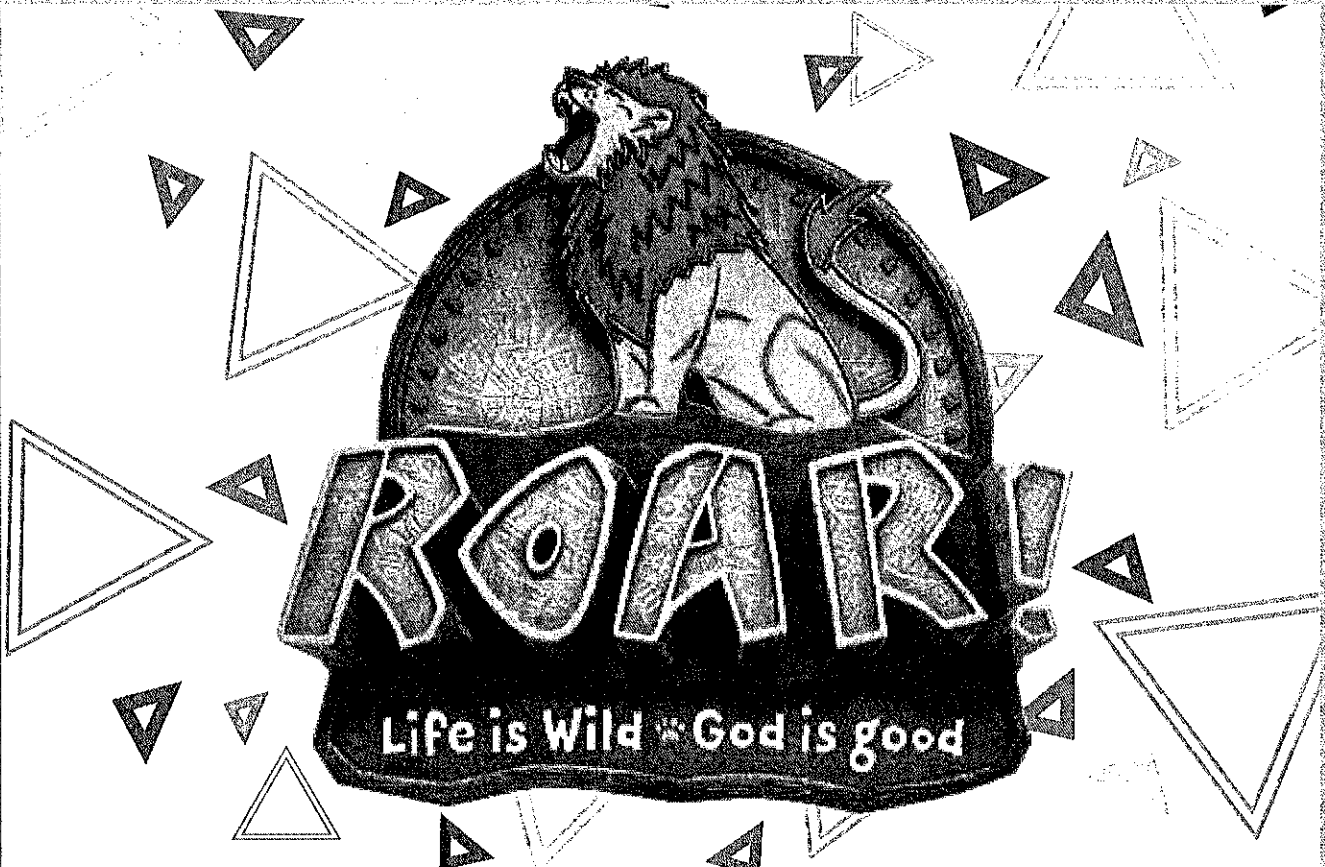
ACTS (**A**fter **C**onfirmation **T**alks and **S**ervice) is a group of young people who have completed "confirmation" or who are of the middle school-high school age group.

In the past this group has done different things and had different purposes.

This fall we are looking to "breathe new life" back into the ACTS group.

Those who are involved in the ACTS group will decide "what" they want to do, "how often" they want to meet and "where" they want to meet among other things.

If you are interested in ACTS group, contact Pastor Dave and we will plan to get together in late August or early September.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Monday August 5th- Friday August 9th

8:30AM-11:30AM

Who?

All kids ages 3 and up!

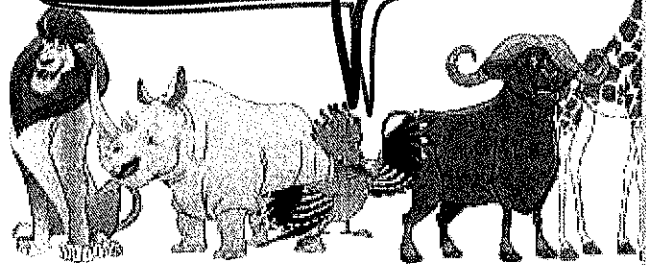
Where?

**Portage United Methodist Church
1804 New Pinery Rd, Portage, WI 53901**

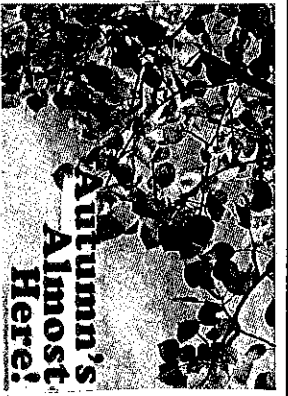
Cost:

**\$10 per individual
\$25 capped fee per family!**

COME EXPLORE GOD'S WILD LOVE WITH
GAMES, SNACKS, AND NEW FRIENDS!
WE CAN'T WAIT TO MEET YOU!



VBS is sponsored by: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Portage Presbyterian Church, St. Mary's Catholic Churches, and Portage United Methodist Church.

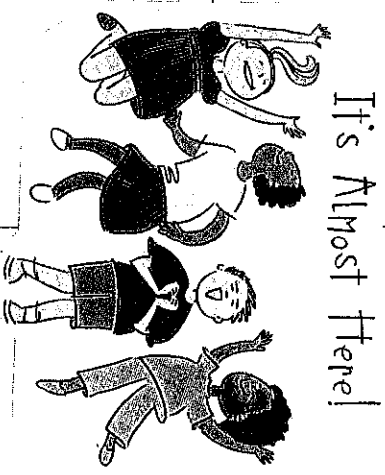


August

2019

Church Office Hours
 Monday – 10:00am – 12:00pm
 Tuesday – Office Closed
 Wednesday – 8:00am – 1:00pm
 Thursday – Office Closed
 Friday – 8:00am – 1:00pm

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
BTR – Bell Tower Room FH – Fellowship Hall PH – Parry Hall SA – Sanctuary WC – Westminster Center						
4 8 th Sunday After Pentecost 9:30am Traditional Worship with Lord's Supper, SA	5 8:30-11:30am Bible School At Portage United Methodist Church 5:30pm Corporate Affairs, WC	6 8:30-11:30am Bible School At Portage United Methodist Church 5:00pm Memorial Mission Stewardship, WC 6:30pm Walk, Talk, and Pray	7 8:30-11:30am Bible School At Portage United Methodist Church	8 8:30-11:30am Bible School At Portage United Methodist Church 6:00pm Joint Session and Deacons Meeting, FH	9 8:30-11:30am Bible School At Portage United Methodist Church September Newsletter Articles Due in Office	10
11 9 th Sunday After Pentecost 9:30am Traditional Worship SA Produce and Bake Sale Day	12	13 10:00am Region 5 Prayer Group, WC 6:30pm Walk, Talk, and Pray	14	15	16	17 9:00am-3:00pm John Knox Presbytery Meeting, FH
18 10 th Sunday After Pentecost 9:30am Informal Worship, SA 4:00pm New Directions 4-H Meeting, FH	19 10:00am Worship Service at Tivoli	20 11:00am "Late For Breakfast" at Dino's 6:30pm Walk, Talk, and Pray	21	22	23	24
25 11 th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00am Traditional Worship 5:00pm Packing Summer Lunches at VFW	26 4:00-8:00pm Alphabet Express Parent Meeting, FH 5:00-6:00pm Sharing Supper at Bartels Middle School	27 6:30pm Walk, Talk, and Pray	28 1:00pm River Haven Board Meeting, WC	29	30	31 10:00am – 2:00pm Brat Sale at Festival Foods, Mission Stewardship



"LIVE NATIVITY" HERE IN PORTAGE?

There were a few conversations last year about the possibility of organizing a "live nativity scene" here at PPC on the same evening as the "Living Windows" downtown.

For 2019 the "Living Windows" will be on *Saturday, December 14, from 4:00-6:00 p.m.*

If you are interested in being a part of the "Live Nativity Planning Group," add your name to the sign-up list on the kiosk in Parry Hall.

Thanks!



THANK YOU!

We can't begin to express the kindness we felt for the women who baked pies, salads and worked to serve meals to our friends and family. It was one less thing that we didn't have to worry about.

Well appreciated!
Randy and Cathy Balliet

12



You are encouraged to take time before each Communion to reflect on the meaning of the Lord's Supper for you, for PPC and for the world.

The "Directory for Worship" notes that *"in preparing to receive Christ in this Sacrament, the believer is to confess sin and brokenness, to seek reconciliation with God and neighbor, and to trust in Jesus Christ for cleansing and renewal."*

As Presbyterians, we believe that coming to the Lord's Table is not a right, but a privilege given to those who come in faith, repentance and love - the gifts of God for the people of God.

Sunday, August 4, 2019

@ 9:30 a.m.

"The 8th Sunday of Pentecost"

"GLUTEN-FREE" BREAD- COMMUNION

In an effort to make sure that all have access to the Lord's Table, the Board of Deacons decided that all of our communion breads served will be "gluten-free."

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Portage WI 53901
Permit No. 158

The Portage Presbyterian Church
120 W Pleasant Street
PO Box 222
Portage WI 53901