



The Portage Presbyterian

A Newsletter for The Portage Presbyterian Family

June 2018



VOLUNTEER "2 B" A GREETER!

Though we may not always think about it, one of the important ministries of the church is that of the "ushers" and "greeters."

Ushers and greeters are the first people that visitors will encounter as they try to find their way for worship.

We are looking to have a more "organized" program for our ushers and greeters.

So, we are looking for "volunteers" who are willing to help show just how welcoming and fantastic this church community really is.

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!

Did You Know?

"TECHNOLOGY" PROJECT GROUP?

We are looking for those who may be interested in helping to evaluate, share ideas and insights and offer suggestions and recommendations for the use of "technology" here at PPC.

This "Technology Project Group" will be a *short-term group* whose task will be to consider ideas and options for the use of technology for worship and education - to better support the work and ministry of the church.

If you are interested, please "sign up" on the sheet on the kiosk in Parry Hall.

If you would like more information, please contact the church office.

Congratulations, Graduates!

On Sunday, June 10 PPC will honor our most recent high school graduating class during our 10:05 a.m. morning worship service.

We will be recognizing *Ethan Roundy, Calista Cadigan, Gerrit Minnema and Courtney McFarlane* as the Class of 2018.

Come and share in this special time of celebration and prayer.

And please be sure to keep these young people in your prayers as they begin their new adventures.

DINNER AT THE FAIR

On July 25th our church will be hosting a meal at the fair. We will be selling shredded chicken, pork and beef brisket sandwiches along with cole slaw, potato salad and cookies. We will need lots of help with this event along with at least 20 dozen cookies. There will be sign up sheets at church for help and the cookies. All proceeds will go to the general operating budget of our church. Please contact Nancy Schaper or Kevin Foster if you have any questions.

PRODUCE DAYS

Summer Produce Days will be held on June 10, July 8 and August 12. For the past three months we have had delicious items for our monthly bake sales. We are looking forward to more fresh produce being available. Bring your fresh flowers, fresh vegetables, fresh fruit, homemade jelly or other food items to church on those days or any Sunday. They will be displayed and the money received will be used for Mission Stewardship projects. Any questions contact Nancy Schaper.

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UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 3, 2018

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

10:05 a.m. – *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*



Sunday, June 10, 2018

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

10:05 a.m. – *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*
"Commencement Sunday"



Sunday, June 17, 2018

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

10:05 a.m. – *"Informal" Worship in Sanctuary*



Sunday, June 24, 2018

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

10:05 a.m. – *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER "NOW" ON-LINE

Check out PPC's website at www.portagepresbyterian.com and you will find that our monthly newsletter is now "on-line."

Just click on the link (on the left column) and it will take you to a menu where you can choose the particular newsletter you would like to read.

We will not, however for privacy and security reasons, be including the "prayer list" in the on-line resource.

THE PORTAGE PRESBYTERIAN

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Portage Presbyterian Church

120 West Pleasant Street, P.O. Box 222
Portage, WI 53901

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Church Office – office@portagepresbyterian.com

Portage Presbyterian Church Website Address

www.portagepresbyterianchurch.com

Editor – Kathryn Curtis

Pastor – The Rev. David J. Hankins

2018 Per Capita Information

Our 2018 "Per Capita" amount is **\$31.00**
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.

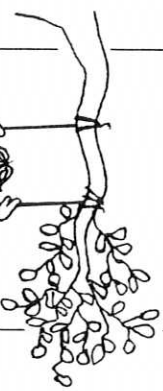
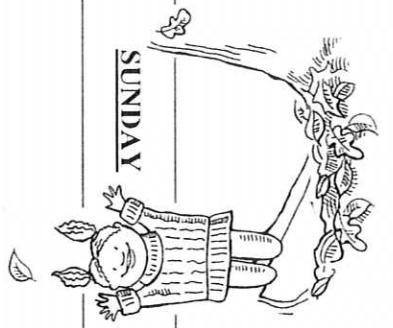
Also, we appreciate those who choose to make a donation on behalf of someone or as a gift to PPC which helps us cover our church's total.

If you have questions, please contact the Church Office.

Thank you!

June 2018

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
3 <i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i> 10:05am Traditional Worship	4 4:30 p.m. ACA, WC	5 	We will have a July/August Newsletter. Please have all articles in the office by Friday, June 15.	7	8 6:00pm Light Supper 6:30pm Euchre – Mission For Yakutat	9 11:00am Canal Days Parade Mission Trip Cupcakes at Commerce Plaza
10 <i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</i> Commencement Sunday 10:05am Traditional Worship	11	12 10:00am Region 5 Prayer Group, WC	13	14 6:00pm Session Meeting, WC	15 	16
17 <i>4th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 10:05am Informal Worship	18 10:00am Worship Service at Tivoli	19 11:00am "Late For Breakfast" at Dino's 5:00pm Discipleship Meeting, WC	20 	21 9:00am – 4:00pm Bi-Vocational Ministry, Fellowship Hall	22 	23
24 <i>5th Sunday after Pentecost</i> Mission Trippers leave for Michigan 10:05am Traditional Worship 12:30pm New Directions	25 Meals On Wheels 5:00-6:30pm Sharing Supper at Bartels Middle School	26	27 	28	29 Meals On Wheels	30 Mission Trippers returning from Michigan



July 30th-August 3rd, 2018 8:30-11:30am
Portage United Methodist Church, 1804 New Pinery Rd
Portage, WI 53901 608-742-2107

VBS REGISTRATION FORM

(ONE PER CHILD)

Open to children 4 years through 6th grade

(PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY)

Child's Name _____ Age: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home telephone: _____ Cell: _____

Home email address: _____

Last school grade completed: _____ Date of birth: _____

In case of emergency, contact: _____

Pick-up Person: _____

Mother name & (phone - if different): _____

Father name & (phone - if different): _____

Other: _____

Allergies, food sensitivities, physical limitations, medical conditions, behavioral or developmental issues, or anything else we should be aware of: _____

Home church & city: _____

Crew Name (for church use only): _____

Early Bird Registration: The cost is \$15 per child or \$40 maximum per family, however if you register by Sunday, July 15th you will receive a discount of \$3.00 off an individual registration (1 child) or \$5.00 off max family registration (2 or more children)!

Please mail completed forms and a check made payable to PUMC to the above address. If you need assistance with the cost, please contact us or your church's VBS leader.

See reverse side for consent needed ----->

CONSENT FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT

In order for my child to receive necessary medical treatment in the event of injury or illness requiring the attention, skills, treatment, or transport by a medical professional or event staff, I hereby authorize the VBS Coordinator and VBS Staff responsible to provide informed consent for such medical care of my child and to provide decisions regarding the care of my child.

Signed: _____
(Parent or Legal Guardian)

CONSENT FOR PICTURES / VIDEO

Consent for pictures and/or video: During your child's experience here for VBS we may take group or individual pictures and/ or video for the purpose of showing the fun and excitement that the children experience. These pictures may be used in VBS newsletters, on the VBS face book page, during VBS, or in another fashion for the purpose of publicizing VBS. By signing you give us consent to have your child included in all pictures and/or video.

Signed: _____
(Parent or Legal Guardian)

VBS is sponsored by: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, CrossPoint Assembly of God, Portage Presbyterian Church, River of Life Church, St. Mary's Catholic Churches - Portage & Briggsville, Briggsville United Methodist Church, Moundville United Methodist Church, Trinity Endeavor United Church of Christ, and Portage United Methodist Church.

KWIK TRIP "CAR WASH" CARDS -

PPC's "mission trippers" continue to sell 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.**

If you are interested in purchasing cards, contact the Church Office or the "mission trippers."

Thanks!

CARD PARTY

Our next card party will be on **June 1**. On April 27th we had a fun card party to benefit Yakutat Presbyterian Church. We had 36 people playing cards. Thanks again to Kathryn Curtis for providing her delicious banana bars for us. A special thanks to the members of the Event's Committee for providing the remainder of the food. We raised \$137.00 towards our Yakutat pledge of \$1,000.



EYE GLASS COLLECTION

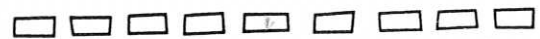
Thanks to all who donated glasses during our Lion's Club eyeglass collection in May. If you find old glasses other times during the year just bring them to me and I will see they get to the proper place.

Nancy Schaper---Portage Lions Club



POUNDS FOR THE PANTRY

With only four Sundays in May we have extended our food drive through June 3rd. Our donations will help many children this summer. Remember that just because our challenge will be over we accept donations to the food pantry all the time. Be sure and check expiration dates because we cannot accept expired items.



KITCHEN CLEANING

On April 21st a group of us met and cleaned the church kitchen. It was a hard working group and when the project was completed the kitchen "sparkled". Thank you to Tara, Andrew and Gabe Bandekow, Edith McElroy, Laura Brenner, Kathy Hankins, Donna Mohr, Glenda Day and Rosemary Minnema for their hard work. The best part was that we all had fun while we were cleaning.

4 Nancy Schaper

Wayne Kastner

**Mark your calendars for
November 10th, which will be the
Harvest Dinner**

Pastor's Page

At the recent John Knox Presbytery meeting someone remarked that it used to be common to call the ceremony at the conclusion of one's high school career the "commencement." Now, however, it is more common to call this "graduation." As the person asserted, "Graduation means something is ending. But, I like commencement because it refers not just to that which has come to an end, but also to that which is just beginning."

While I also like the concept of "commencement," I also have experienced that "endings" and "beginnings" are really connected in a strange way.

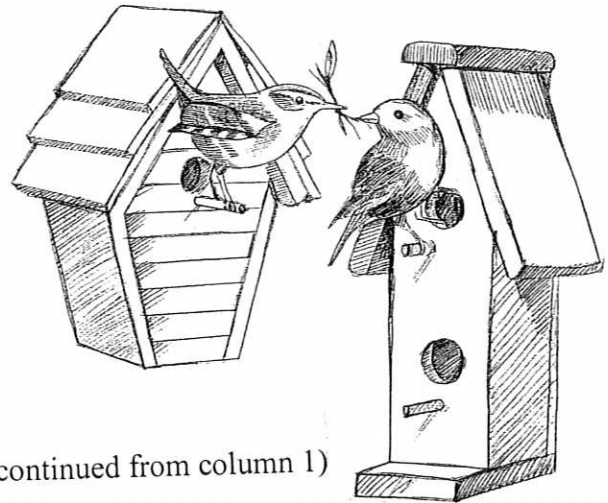
In June I again celebrate the anniversary of my ordination. Ordination was an "ending" for me as I left behind my place and time of training and preparation in order to go "out into the world." But, even more this "ending" was a transition of my status, my place in the church. For the first time since I had been confirmed, I would no longer be an "active church member." For to be ordained meant that my "membership" would now be with the "Presbytery."

I realized then that the only way to move ahead, the only way that this new life would unfold was in my being willing to trust and let go and follow. Of experiencing an ending in order for a beginning to happen.

This season of Pentecost in which we find ourselves is a time of "endings" and "beginnings." For the disciples / apostles this was an experience in which they were asked to lay aside their fears, to leave behind that which they have known and to trust God to lead them, guide them and to provide for them as they moved in a new direction. But, in order to do this they had to experience an ending of their "discipleship" (students / learners) in order to be transformed by the Spirit into "apostles" (those who are sent out).

They had to believe, to trust and to be convinced that their being "sent out as witnesses" was indeed a call of God. Yes, it was probably a little scary not knowing where God would take them. But, it was also very reassuring to know that wherever God would take them, that was where

(continued in column 2)



(continued from column 1)

God needed them to be. That was the promise that Christ had given them.

I suspect that those students (and their families too) "who are graduating" have a good understanding this sense of the interconnectedness of endings and beginnings.

As do those who have been "confirmed" and begin a new journey of membership with the church community and with God.

In reality, most of our lives are a series of endings and beginnings - some are rather non-descript - while others are defining moments in our lives.

Like those who have gone before us, who were no longer "disciples" but were now "apostles," may we always know that God is not only with us on our life's journey. And that God will also empower and lead us in ways, times and experiences that we may anticipate and also that we may not expect, anticipate or even want.

But, that is okay! It really is!

For if we trust that God is at work in and through us, if we believe that God really does seek for us to experience the gift of life, if we are convinced that God is with us and will provide for us ... then there really are no "endings" - but merely opportunities for new "beginnings" to burst forth.

So, whether it be commencement, confirmation, ordination - or any other of life's transitions - let us move ahead in the peace and love and hope of God.

5 For God is with us, and for us, now and forever more. Peace!

Confirmation Class

"CLERK'S CORNER"

At the May Session Meeting, the Elders had an opportunity to meet with three of the four members of the Confirmation Class (Gabe Bandekow, Elizabeth Martens, Ben O'Rourke, and Braden Schaller). The Elders read their affirmations of faith and there was the good natured joke about "interrogation" by the Elders.

These 8th graders, soon to be high school students, were not the least intimidated. It was obvious that they had developed a close bond with each other and with Pastor Dave during their year together and their affirmations were impressive.

Here are some thoughts they expressed:

"I believe the Church is a place that helps people feel closer to God. I also believe that is a sanctuary where everyone should feel safe in."

Elizabeth Martens

"I believe that we should learn more about God."

Ben O'Rourke

"I believe that being a Christian young person today is important with all the bad things happening in the world. I also believe as a Christian it is easier to find positives out of the negatives."

Gabe Bandekow

"I need faith and Jesus in my life. I know that they are there at times when I need help and guidance doing the things I love, whether it be school, friends, or other things I love."

Braden Schaller

The Session and all of our church family wish these young people well in their Christian journey as well as in all of their life experiences. We hope that their fellowship and learning within our church has helped them build a foundation that will grow stronger and stronger.

Kathy Raimer

WORSHIP @ COUNTY FAIR - JULY 29

PPC has been invited to lead the ecumenical worship service at the Columbia County Fairgrounds on **Sunday, July 29**.

Details continue to be worked out (such as place, time, etc).

However, there will be "transport options available" from parking lots to the worship area.

What an exciting opportunity we have been given to share the "good news" to all of God's creatures - and to be ambassadors of the grace and love of God for all.

PPC "LOGO CONTEST"

Calling All Inspired PPC Community Members!

The Portage Presbyterian Church Discipleship Committee is sponsoring a logo contest seeking a logo for all PPC outreach activities and events. T-shirts and other marketing materials (with the winning logo) will help identify PPC activity and event hosts/helpers to the general public.

Legible: Logo may be featured on PPC website, social media platforms and other mediums (brochures, hats, pamphlets, t-shirts, etc). As a result, the logo should be eye-catching and legible. Be creative, 'crafty', and have FUN designing the logo.

Theme: Logo must reflect and promote the mission of PPC, "A warm, inviting group of believers who offer times and spaces of sanctuary, compassion and peace."

Color: There are no limitations and any colors may be used. However, logo must look good in color (if any) or black and white.

Integrity: Logos cannot contain copyrighted material. Logos must have been created and edited by the contestants. Logos may not include images or licensed images that have been previously published. Must be easily reproducible and scalable for large and small formatting.

Logo submissions should be mailed to or dropped off at the PPC Office, 118 W Pleasant St, Portage, WI 53901 or e-mailed at office@portagepresbyterian.com on or before 3:00 p.m., Friday, June 15, 2018. The winning logo will be voted by the Committee on June 19, 2018 and the winning contestant will win a \$50.00 Visa card, which has been donated as the award, and the bragging rights (or a peace that surpasseth understanding)! For any questions, contact Lee Roundy at (608) 566-5256.

"EMAIL INFO" FOR PPC OFFICES

To reach Pastor Dave by email: pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com

To reach the church office by email: office@portagepresbyterian.com

REGION 5 "MISSION TRIP" - UPDATE

During the week of June 24-30, folks from the Region 5 area will be travelling to Michigan for a "mission work camp" experience at Camp Westminster.

Camp Westminster is a Presbyterian camp near Roscommon, MI.

Our work will include maintenance and upkeep such as painting, staining, grounds keeping and working the trails. There may also be opportunities to be involved in a "Kids Against Hunger" packaging event where we will package meals for hungry families in the US and abroad. Or we may be helping to put together "Disaster Kits" used by the Presbyterian Disaster Service.

Those participating from PPC include: *Ethan Roundy, Jack Roundy, Gabe Bandekow, Jarrett Foster, Sarah Hankins, Samantha Harvey, Lindsey Harvey and Pastor Dave.* We will also have four participants from Lodi.

Please keep the "mission trippers" in your prayers as they travel and serve as the "hands and feet of Jesus."



"SHARING SUPPER" – JUNE, 2018

The "Sharing Supper" will be shared on Monday, June 25!!!

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

"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 **June 25 @ 5:00 p.m.**

"CONGRATS" CONFIRMATION CLASS

On Sunday, May 20 PPC welcomed 4 new members.

Our most recent Confirmation Class completed their statements of faith and sought to be received as members of this church community.

PPC's newest members include *Braden Schaller, Elizabeth Martens, Gabe Bandekow and Ben O'Rourke.*

Please be sure to welcome these young people into the work and activity of God here at and through PPC.

And be sure to keep them in your prayers as they begin this new journey.

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!



2018 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL INFO

Included with this month's newsletter is the registration form for this year's "Shipwrecked" VBS.

VBS will be held Monday, July 30-Friday, August 3. Each day the VBS will run from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at the Portage United Methodist Church.

We are also looking for "volunteer leaders" to participate - anything from leading a group to helping with snacks or being there for registration. Contact the church office if you are interested in this.

The cost for the week-long VBS is \$15.00 / child or \$40.00 max/ family.

VBS is available for young people 4 years old through 6th grade. Those 7th grade or older are encouraged to consider a volunteer role.

If you have questions about this summer's VBS, please contact the church office.

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 THIRD Monday in June - June 18th @10:00 a.m.

PPC @ THE MALLARDS' GAME - JULY 15

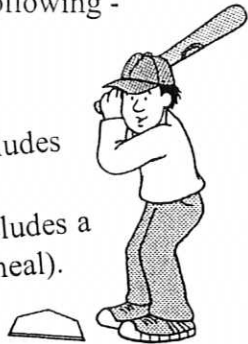
PPC will once again be participating in the "Faith and Family" outing at Warner Park for the Mallards' game. This summer the game is on Sunday, July 15 @ 1:00 p.m.

Tickets are being sold on "first come, first serve" basis.

We have reserved the following -

25 - \$10.00 tickets (which includes a hat and ticket).

10 - \$20.00 tickets (which includes a hat, ticket and buffet meal).



Reserve your ticket now (by June 20) by putting your name and number of tickets on the "sheet" on the kiosk in Parry Hall or by contacting the church office.

Payment for the tickets should be made as soon as possible.

Remember - the "early duck" gets the "Mallards' ticket"

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our Summer worship services will continue to be offered at 10:05 a.m.

BRAT and HOT DOG SALE



We had a wonderful brat, hamburger and hot dog sale on Saturday, May 12 at Festival Foods Brat Hut. We sold 151 brats, 33 hamburgers and 30 hot dogs along with soda and water. We made \$484.95 for the general operating budget of our church. Thanks to Kevin Foster for grilling all the brats and hot dogs. Thanks also to Donna Mohr, Kathy Raimer, Edith McElroy and Allison Foster for their help all day. Thanks to all of you who came and supported us. Mark your calendars for September 1st when our next sale will be at Festival Foods.

Nancy Schaper

"GUITAR LESSONS" - SUMMER UPDATE

"Guitar Lessons" will continue over the summer - but on a somewhat "irregular" schedule.

Because of everyone's summer activities, we are planning on meeting once a month.

Pastor Dave will be contacting those who have been participating to let them know of upcoming gathering times.

If you are interested, please contact Pastor Dave at the church office for more information.

Everyone of all skill and experience level is welcome!

WORSHIP "JAM" @ PPC - SUMMER NOTES

Here's our Worship "Jam" schedule for the Summer.

All instrumentalists and vocalists are welcome and encouraged to come and "jam" for about an hour or so.

We work on music which we enjoy and which we usually share during our "Informal" worship services on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

During the Summer we will "jam" on the Wednesday "before" our Informal Sunday:

* *Wed, June 13 @ 6:30 p.m.*

* *Wed, July 11 @ 6:30 p.m.*

* *Wed, August 15 @ 6:30 p.m.*

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Dave. Thanks!

INTERESTED IN THE "UKULELE?"

if you are interested in being a part of a "ukulele group" to learn how to play and to play music together, contact the Church Office or put your name on the list on the kiosk.

IF YOU GO TO PORTAGE "PIZZA RANCH"

...*"bring in your Sunday church bulletin to the Pizza Ranch, Monday-Wednesday, turn it into the register when you purchase your buffet - we'll give \$1.00 to your church."*

This is will be an "ongoing" fund-raising opportunity. So, if you like to go to Pizza Ranch, be sure to take a bulletin along.

CONCERT AT THE PORTAGE

On Wednesday evening, August 22, the Event's Committee will be providing dessert at the Concert at the Portage that is being held at the VFW. The group performing that evening is The Universal Sound Band, LLC. It should be a fun evening so come join us at the park. There is a concert each Wednesday evening during the summer. This will be a fundraiser for the church and we are asking for donations of home-made pie. There will be a sign-up sheet in Parry Hall or you can contact Nancy Schaper (742-7242) to get your name on the list. If possible please use a disposable pie pan. The pies need to be brought to the church by noon on August 22. Any questions contact Nancy Schaper.

THANK YOU!

Hi Rosemary (and Women's Association),

Thank you all so much for making the drive, visiting, and for all your kind donations!!

Cassandra (Mary House)

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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, July 22, 2018

@ 10:05 a.m.

"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."

Sunday Worship Service
10:05 a.m. Traditional Worship
Third Sunday of Each Month is Informal Service
Child Care Available
Church Is Handicapped Accessible
Everyone Invited!



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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