
The Portage Presbyterian

A Newsletter for The Portage Presbyterian Family

September 2018

"TOUCHED TWICE" EVENT IN SEPT

Saturday, September 15, 2018
10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Columbia County Fairgrounds



"Touched Twice Portage" has as its mission "to meet the basic needs of our neighbors. "Touched Twice Portage" is a Christ-centered, faith based organization that strives to bring healing and hope to the community.

Currently, "Touched Twice Portage" would like to provide: *Medical care*, in the form of: diabetes screenings, blood pressure readings, sports physicals, health education, and referrals. *Chiropractic care* through adjustments and manipulations. *Dental care*, through screenings and cleanings. *Spa services: haircuts, and mini-massages. Financial counseling. Family portraits. St. Vincent De Paul, the Portage Food Pantry, Columbia County Health & Human Resources* will be present to promote the services they offer. We would also like to provide all participants and volunteers a free hot lunch.

Volunteers are being recruited from the community to provide services for the guests. On the day of the clinic, we will hold a volunteer training at 9:00, prior to the opening of doors.

We need volunteers from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, in two, 3 hour shifts. 9-12, and 12-3

If you are interested or would like more information, contact Rachel at Blau Chiropractic Offices.



PRODUCE DAYS

There will be a Produce table every Sunday in September: 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. We have been having some beautiful produce in August. Bring your produce, flowers, jellies, etc and select the summer's bounty.

"PEACE/ ECUMENICAL SUPPER" - SEPT 22

You are invited to come and share a special time of fellowship and "peace" with other churches in Portage on Saturday, September 22.

The "*Ecumenical Community Supper*" will feature a meal and a time of sharing, discussing and just experiencing "peace together."

Beginning @ 4:00 p.m. (and concluding at 6:00 p.m.) this gathering "will have fellowship and activities that celebrate peace: peace in the world, peace in the community, peace in our family and peace for ourselves. By coming together for this event, our congregations can model peace by being in community with each other in a variety of ways, such as working together and playing together."

Among the activities being planned: *activity tables (such as learning a new craft); discussion tables on different topics; outdoor games and activities; children's videos; a "worship music jam session."*

Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate in this gathering of "peace."

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Dave.



"BLESSING OF SCHOOL BAGS" - SEPT 9

As a part of our worship service on Sunday, September 9 all young people, teachers, support staff (or anyone else) are invited to bring your "school bag" for a special time of "blessing."

The "blessing" serves as a reminder for one who carries their bag to school that wherever you go "you are a child of God"

Each person who brings a bag for the blessing will receive a "special gift" which can be attached to the school bag to remind them of the "blessing" which they have received.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 2, 2018

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:05 a.m. – Traditional Worship in Sanctuary



Sunday, September 9, 2018

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:05 a.m. – Traditional Worship in Sanctuary
"Neighborhood Picnic" following worship outside!

Sunday, September 16, 2018

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:05 a.m. – "Informal" Worship in Sanctuary



Sunday, September 23, 2018

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:05 a.m. – Traditional Worship in Sanctuary

Sunday, September 30, 2018

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:05 a.m. – Traditional Worship in Sanctuary



GIFTS RECEIVED IN MEMORY OF

TILLIE VANT HOFF

For Stained Glass Windows, from
Caroline Rittmann

KAREN KASTNER REINOLD

From Mary Alice Kastner

GIFT TO THE LEGACY FUND

In Memory of Darlene Krause

THE PORTAGE PRESBYTERIAN

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2018 Per Capita Information

Our 2018 "Per Capita" amount is \$31.00
for each active member.

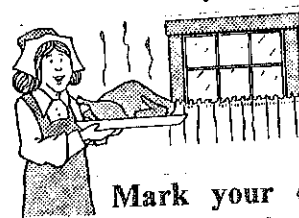
Please take a moment to drop off your Per Capita (for each member) on Sunday morning, in the mail or by stopping by the church office.

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!






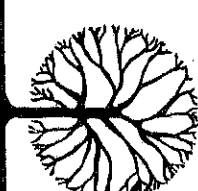




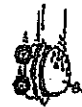

Mark your calendar for the Harvest Dinner on November 10. More information to come in the October newsletter.



September

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
1 10:00am – 2:00pm Brat Stand at Festival Foods, Events Committee						 
2 15 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:05am Traditional Worship	3 Labor Day Office Closed	4 5:00pm Memorial Mission Stewardship, WC	5 5:00pm Light Snack 5:30pm Lord's Lamb 6:05pm Worship	6	7	8
9 16 th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45am Bible Study, Bell Tower Room 10:05am Traditional Worship Neighborhood Picnic	10 5:00pm ACA, WC 6:00pm Bell Choir, Parry Hall 	11 10:00am Region 5 Prayer Group, WC 	12 5:00pm Light Snack 5:30pm Lord's Lamb 6:05pm Worship 6:35pm "Jam" Worship 	13 	14  October Newsletter Articles Due in Office	15 10:00am – 2:00pm Touched Twice Event at Columbia County Fairgrounds
16 17 th Sunday of Pentecost 10:05am Informal Worship 4:00pm 4-H Meeting, FH	17 10:00am Worship Service at Tivoli 6:00pm Bell Choir Parry Hall	18 11:00am "Late For Breakfast" at Dino's	19 5:00pm Light Snack 5:30pm Lord's Lamb 6:05pm Worship 6:30pm Chancel Choir	20 9:00am – 4:00pm Bi- Vocational Ministry, Fellowship Hall	21 6:00pm Light supper 6:30pm Eucharist – Mission For Yakutat	22 4:00 – 6:00pm Eccumenical Community Supper at Bartels Middle School
23 18 th Sunday of Pentecost 8:45am Bible Study Bell Tower Room 10:05am Traditional Worship	24 5:00-6:30pm Sharing Supper at Bartels Middle School	25	26 5:00pm Light Snack 5:30pm Lord's Lamb 6:05pm Worship 6:30pm Chancel Choir	27	28 	29
30 19 th Sunday of Pentecost 10:05am Traditional Worship			3			

PAINTNITE

The Women's Association is excited to announce that we will be having our first PaintNite at 2PM on November 17th. What does this mean? It's very simple, all you have to do is reserve your spot (we only have 60) and come to the church that day. The company PaintNite will be here with an instructor and all of the supplies needed to make a beautiful canvas painting called Faith, Hope and Love. Snacks will be provided by the Women's Association. The cost for 2 hours of fun, fellowship, laughter and an original canvas made by you is only \$45.00. To sign up go to <https://paintnite.com> or contact Tara Bandekow (608 697-8402 for more information. All reservations will be made online but we will be happy to assist you in making them.

CARD PARTY

Mark your calendars for September 21 when a Euchre card party will be held in the church dining room. A free will offering of \$5.00 includes cards and a meal. A donation to the food pantry would be appreciated. The meal will be served at 6:00 PM and cards start at 6:30 PM. All proceeds from this Euchre party will be directed towards our Yakutat pledge. Come and enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship

PPC'S "WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION" NEWS

The 2018 John Knox Women Fall Workshop will be on Saturday, September 15 at 9:30 at the Zalmona Presbyterian Church in Waukon, IA. More information is posted on the kiosk in church or you can contact Donna Mohr.

We are taking orders for Scrip. We would like to make an order soon. Please get your orders to Elaine Crammond or Donna Mohr.

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!

Our next meeting will be at Dino's at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 6th. Come and join us!

Minister's Message

One of the more unusual courses I took in college was called "Christ At The Movies."

As you might guess the primary activity of the class was going to movies and discovering where (or if) there were images, themes or concepts that we could identify as "reflecting the Christian faith."

We watched a variety of movies over the semester. Some that we could identify as "Christian" and others that were not.

For example among the movies we saw (as I remember them) were "Dog Day Afternoon," "Rocky" (yes, the very first one!)

What amazed me was that in every movie we watched that semester we often discovered elements which pointed to the Christian faith.

In "Dog Day Afternoon," for example, at the end of the movie the main character stands in the jail with his arms extended, forming an image of Jesus on the cross.

With "Rocky" we found the theme of the person who is on the margins of society, one deemed to be insignificant, who rises up to do that which he and others never thought possible.

Needless to say, I continue to "watch for" faith images, themes and concepts when I go to movies even now.

The affirmation that "God is with us" suggests that God relates to us in ways and means with which we can relate - sometimes obvious and sometimes more subtle - sometimes expected and sometimes surprising.

So, I thought it might be fun and inspirational to start a "Faith @ the Movies" group here at PPC.

This group would agree to watch a variety of movies (sometimes together and sometimes on our own) to "see" where we "experience" God. And then we would come together to discuss what we did or did not find.

If this might be something in which you are interested, please indicate on the "sign up" sheet on the kiosk in Parry Hall.

A "NEW STYLE VBS" CONVERSATION?

We all know what "vacation bible school" means - a time of activity and learning for young people, right?

Well - Yes ... AND No!

If you would be interested in exploring the concept of a "new style of VBS" which could include both youth AND adults "of all ages" - please indicate on the "sign up" in Parry Hall.

o What might happen if we were to have young children and senior citizens together doing projects, singing songs and praying together?



What types of things might occur if we had children, teens, adults of "all ages" together around tables sharing conversation and meals?

That's exactly what we want to talk about and explore further.

If you would like to be a part of this conversation, just "sign up" and we will let you know when we will get together.

If you have questions, ideas, suggestions, etc - please contact Liz Bellmore or Pastor Dave.

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 September - Sept 17th ... @10:00 a.m.

"WORSHIP @ THE FAIR" EXPERIENCE

On Sunday, July 29 the PPC community shared in a unique setting for morning worship.

We were invited by the Columbia County Fair Board in March to provide a "worship experience" for Sunday morning. While we had never done this type of service before, this opportunity certainly provided us a way of living into one of the goals of "getting out into the community."

And so we did!

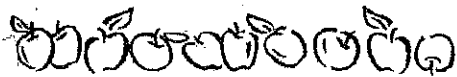
On the end of the sheep barn we gathered for singing, praying, Scripture, a " blessing of the animals" and the sounds of God's "sheep."

It was a beautiful day. But even more it was a wonderful place, out in the midst of God's creation surrounded by God's creatures, in which to gather to worship God.

Thank you to the Columbia County Fair Board for this opportunity.

NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS

The nominating committee is beginning the process of election of Elders and Deacons for the new year. If you have suggestions or ideas please contact Elders Nancy Schaper or Marcia VanNatta.



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER?

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a member of the PPC community - or if you just have questions and would like more information - we will be organizing "Inquiry Gatherings" in late September or early October.

These "Gatherings" are opportunities for folks who would like to learn more about PPC - our work and ministries, our history, our theology, our organization, etc.

"Inquiry Gatherings" are just that - a time and opportunity for those interested to come, ask questions and share in a time of fellowship in a non-pressure setting.

If you would be interested in participating in an "Inquiry Gathering" or have other questions, please contact Pastor Dave.

Thank you!

FROM THE PRESBY. CHURCH (USA)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We give thanks to you for your support of special Offerings. Our collective witness to the love of Jesus Christ. By participating in Special Offerings, your congregation joins other churches to change lives around the world - through ministries of compassion, advocacy, development, peacemaking, Christian formation, education and witness.

Thank you for the following support to Special Offerings: On July 09, 2018, we received \$642.99 for One Great Hour of Sharing, and \$175.15 for the Pentecost Offering. Your congregation's gift when combined with that of others, will share the love of Christ with those in need.

Each of the Special Offerings is grounded in God's loving presence with us. They provide congregations the opportunity to reflect, theologically, on how God's compassion has made known to us, how God's Spirit ignites our inspiration, how Christ's peace draws us into partnership, and how the Incarnation provides a model for servant leadership in our churches and for our world.

Again, thank you for giving to enable all people to know God's life-giving welcome in Jesus Christ. You are a valued partner in mission. Please let me know how we can support *your* efforts.

With gratitude to God for our shared mission,

Bryce Wiebe

*Director, Special Offerings
Presbyterian Church (USA)*

"PPC NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC" - SEPT 9

PPC will once again host our 5th annual "Neighborhood Picnic" on Sunday, September 9.

This is an opportunity for us to connect with our "neighbors" in a time of fellowship, conversation and, of course, food.

Sign-up sheets for food donations are in Parry Hall if you would like to donate any items.

If the "weather permits," we are looking to share both our worship time and our picnic "outdoors" in the parking areas near the church.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

The Peacemaking theme this year is "Peace at all Times in all Ways." Be with us on October 7 as we celebrate World Communion Sunday and receive the Peace & Global Witness Offering. On this day we join with Christians around the world to celebrate the unity that we find at the Table of the Lord. We receive the Peace & Global Witness Offering to support the efforts of our congregation, our synod and presbytery, and our denomination to spread the peace of Christ in places near and far. As we work to share Christ's peace with one another, let's share that peace with those beyond our doors, beyond our communities and beyond our borders. This offering provides the tools and resources for us as we join together as active peacemakers--at all times, in all ways.

The money collected from the special offering will be divided with 25% staying locally while 75% goes to Presbyterian Church USA.

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."*

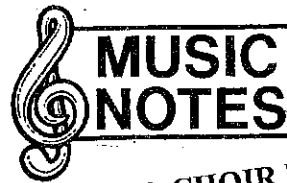
This is will be an "ongoing" fund-raising opportunity. So, if you like to go to Pizza Ranch, be sure to take a bulletin along.

"BRESE FUND FOR THE NEEDY"

Over 30 years ago, the Llewelyn Breese Fund for the Needy was established with a bequest. The will specified that the fund "... shall be held in trust and used for the benefit of any underprivileged children of the church."

The administration of this fund is entrusted to Ruling Elders George Beasley and Jerry Schneiter, who have been appointed by the Session, along with the Pastor Dave, who serves as the Chairperson.

If you are in need or have a suggestion of someone from the church who may need assistance of this type, please contact a committee member. All contacts are held in strictest confidence.



HANDBELL CHOIR RINGS AGAIN

PPC's Handbell Choir will start rehearsals again on Monday, September 10th beginning @ 6:00 p.m.

Anyone who is interested in learning more about the "bells" or who would like to be a part of this wonderful group is invited to come to the first rehearsal or contact Kathy Hankins @742-2752.

No experience is necessary! Just a love of music and a desire to have fun!

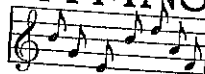
CHANCEL CHOIR BEGINS SEPTEMBER 19

All who would like to come and make a joyful noise to the Lord are invited to come and be part of PPC's Chancel Choir.

Rehearsals with the Chancel Choir begin on Wednesday, September 19 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Judy Taylor.

HYMNS



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.



WORSHIP "JAM" @ PPC - SEPT 12

All instrumentalists (of any kind) and all who like to sing are welcome and encouraged to come and "Jam" on Wednesday, September 12 @ 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

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

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



"SHARING SUPPER" – SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

The "Sharing Supper" will be shared on Monday, September 24!!!

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 **September 24 @ 5:00 p.m.**



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.

U CAN VOLUNTEER "2 B" 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!

FOOD PANTRY

Remember the food pantry. The shelves are pretty empty after a busy summer. Our basket is always out in Parry Hall.

TERRI LYNN NUT & CANDY SALE

During the month of October we will be doing a Terri Lynn Nut & Candy **pre-order** sale. You will **pre-order** and pay for what you would like. More information will be in the October newsletter.



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.

Thanks!

WHY!!!

Have you ever wondered "WHY" is the church here, does it make a difference and what is the church's purpose in the world today? That was a question asked to a panel of church members during a "Town Hall" type meeting held during worship on August 5th. The panel was made up of Ann Lee, Fred Taylor, Tara Bandekow, Kathryn Curtis, Pam Crossley, Rhys Brenner, John Crammond, and Phillis Werning and was moderated by Elaine Crammond.

Five questions were posed to the panel to find out "WHY". The questions were:

1. What brought you to this church?
2. What activities do you like in the church?
3. Why is church important to you?
4. How, in your opinion, does this church make a difference in the community?
5. What is one of your best memories or experiences in the church?

We learned things we already knew, did not know and that surprised us but above all we discovered and re-discovered that PPC does have a purpose and that God is alive and well in and through this church community.

So "Why"??? Think about how you would answer these questions. Lets celebrate and give thanks for the ways, the people and the ministries through which God continues to touch lives in this church, in this community and through out the world.



PASTORAL CARE HOSPITAL POLICY

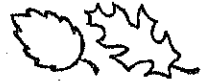
Divine Savior Healthcare in Portage, as a respect to patient's privacy, does not make patient information available at the front desk. However, there are two ways that pastors and churches will have information on those in the hospital:

- 1) If patients and/or families request a member of the Spiritual Care staff to contact the church office or the pastor
- 2) If the patient or family contacts the church office or pastor directly.

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Dave.

MEAL AT THE FAIR

On July 25th we hosted a very successful Meal at the Fair. We served chicken, pork and beef brisket 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 most of the food for us. It was a very hot evening with storm warnings all around us so we were very happy with the turn out. 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 \$947.09** that has been donated to the general operating budget of our church.



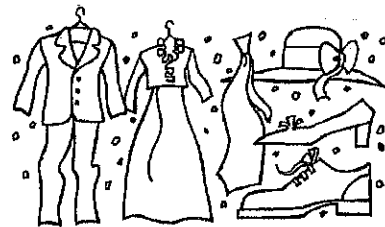
TAXI CAB "VOUCHERS"

The PPC Deacons have purchased coupons to help aid our members in coming to church. If you are unable to find a way to church, call a cab! The ride will be covered with coupons that will be kept at church. The coupons can be used for both your arrival to church and your return ride home. Please consider using them whenever transportation to church becomes an issue for you. We want to see you at church! If you have any questions please call the church office 742-6006.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

HARVEST DINNER

NOVEMBER 10TH !!!



COATS OF MANY COLORS COAT DRIVE

The Salvation Army Coat Drive will take place October 1-21 with distribution October 26 & 27. Bring in your old winter coats, hats, mittens and children's boots in October.

UPCOMING COMMUNION SCHEDULE

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, October 7, 2018

@ 10:05 a.m.

"World Communion Sunday"

"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."

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Once again this year we are doing a school supply drive. There is a container in Parry Hall for the supplies. Some of the items needed are No. 2 pencils, Children's blunt scissors, Dry Erase Markers, Spiral notebooks, Plain colored folders, loose leaf paper, Graph paper, Crayola crayons, Elmer's glue sticks, big erasers, colored markers etc. We will conclude this drive on September 9.



12

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!
Wednesday Worship Service
6:05 p.m. Informal, Interactive Worship

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