



The Ambassador

DELTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Words From Wendy

Looming over all of us is my retirement in May. The Strategic Planning Team is hard at work with a consultant from the Presbyterian Foundation and is looking at a variety of options for going forward as the people of God. In the midst of uncertainty, ministry continues. It is easy to step back and think we'll wait and see what happens, yet ministry continues. Members die, we celebrate their lives, and ministry continues.

The Nominating Committee is beginning their work of seeking elders and deacons: ministry continues. Now it is more important than ever to show our commitment to Christ's church with our support of the ministry and financial health of the church. Ministry continues.

We have some good things going on: the Blessing of the Animals on October 1 at 2:00 pm, a Bible study on Philippians after worship on Sundays, and a Fellowship Meal on October 15. Ministry continues. We continue to open our building to the community, with Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts meeting here regularly. Ministry continues. Stacy resigned, volunteers stepped forward and ministry continues. We are going to host the Starlight Theater for their rehearsals and production of "It's a Wonderful Life" this year (the first two weekends in December). Ministry continues. We will once again host the Capital City Ringers for their Christmas concert (Monday, December 11). Ministry continues. We continue to worship every Sunday morning and welcome visitors. Ministry continues. Continue to pray for our leaders as they seek to follow God's plan for Delta. Ministry continues. When I retire, ministry will continue. Thanks be to God for the continuing ministry of the church.



*Words
From
Wendy*

Living into Our Vision

There are times when we fail to see the impact of living out our vision. There are times when we plant seeds that we won't see sprout (which doesn't mean they won't sprout.) We have seen the results of living out our vision in Stacy's life.

When we hired Stacy as Administrative

Assistant, we were unaware that she was going to be serving time for drug charges. When we learned that, we showed her Christ as the Session decided to hold the position for her potential return. Ellen and Fran stepped up to help in the office, and all of you made sure that she knew we loved her and remembered her by sending her postcards. Our postcards followed her from jail to rehab, and she has saved every one of them as a reminder that she is worthy of love.

She returned to us and began fulfilling the requirements of her probation. Her probation officer was skeptical about her ability to work and meet those requirements. Stacy did meet those requirements and finished her probation early, with our support. She grew into the job and in confidence of her value as a child of God. She took training to become a Peer Recovery Counselor and added that part-time job to her resume. She looked forward to the time when, 4 ½ years from now, she could have the felonies removed from her record. In conversation with another parent, she learned that some MSU positions are open to felons. She applied to one of them, and she got the job. It is full-time position with benefits.



Delta Presbyterian Church

Strengthening Christ in us
Sharing Christ among us
Showing Christ around us

www.deltapresby.org

Her achievements are being recognized, and she will be speaking at the Michigan Association of Drug Courts. We showed her Christ, and she has claimed Christ and is now showing Christ to others. Well done, Delta, you truly are living into our vision, and it shows.

From the Session

- **New Administrative Assistant:** The Session has authorized the Personnel Committee to pursue options and hire a new person to fill the position.
- **Blessing of the Animals and Bonfire and S'mores** will take place on Sunday, October 1 at 2:00 p.m. in back of the church, weather permitting. Bring your favorite s'more toppings to share, and we will provide the graham crackers and the marshmallows (and don't forget your furry family members). You are welcome to join us for the bonfire and s'mores, even if you don't have a pet.
- **Trick or Treat Trail** at Sharp Park is on Tuesday, October 10 from 5:30 to 7:30. This year, we will have a table at the event. In addition to candy, we will have information about the church available. If you would like to help, talk to Meredith.
- **Get involved!** We ask that you prayerfully consider taking on a role at the church. The Nominating committee (Chuck Jennings is moderator) will be meeting soon to nominate Elders and Deacons (see article below). The committees always welcome new members, as well. Talk to a committee moderator to learn more about what the committees do:
 - **Resources:** Doug Dykstra
 - **Spiritual Life:** Sue Settle
 - **Property:** Frank Jackson
 - **Mission:** Sharon VanCourt
 - **Personnel:** Nancy Ellis



COMMITTEES

Calling Those Who Love the Church

The Nominating Committee is beginning their work to fill the positions on Session and Deacons for the coming year. As we plan for the future and ministry continues, it is important to have enough people serving to care for the congregation and lead us forward. Please pray for them. If you feel called to serve or have a recommendation to make, contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee: Chuck Jennings, Art Kelley, Mary Kohler, and Bill Stirling.

Spotlight on Mission

Thank you to all who made monetary and food donations for the Dimondale Food Pantry. Donations of money enable them to purchase more food much cheaper than what it is at the store. In October, we will be collecting coats, hats, and mittens for distribution to school children.



Office News

Thank you to the volunteers who have stepped forward to help in the office, especially Ellen and Fran, who will be preparing the worship slides, Ambassador, and Order of Worship. We are grateful to have dedicated members who are willing to step forward. The Stirlings have also offered their help, and we will make use of their skills as well.

Obviously, office hours will be less predictable, so please call before you stop by.

Financial Update (from the Resources Committee)

	August	Year-to-Date
Income	\$15,740	\$109,772
Expenses	<u>\$11,723</u>	<u>\$116,140</u>
Difference	\$4,018	\$(6,368)



Cause to Rejoice!



Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Philippians 4:4 God continues to be at work in and through us as we seek to serve God in our community. There is always cause to rejoice!

We rejoice in the participation in our informational meeting and the 45 surveys that have been returned.

We rejoice in all of the school supplies you contributed for Waverly Middle School and the food and cash donations for the Dimondale Food Pantry

We rejoice in the Presbyterian Foundation's support of the Strategic Planning Team through their Project Regeneration.

We rejoice in the work our leaders and members are doing so that ministry is and will continue.

We rejoice in the Blessing of the Animals on October 1 at 2:00.

We rejoice in Stacy's new job at MSU.

We rejoice in the volunteers who have stepped forward to help in the office as we review the job description and seek out a new Administrative Assistant.

We rejoice that we have been able to establish a relationship with Starlight Theater and offer them our building for rehearsals and performances.

We rejoice that we will once again host the Capital City Ringers' Christmas Concert.

We rejoice in the upcoming return of the choir.

We rejoice in the Sunday morning Bible Study.

We rejoice that we will be participating in Delta Township's Trick or Treat Trail at Sharp Park on October 10.

We rejoice that ministry continues!

What gives you cause to rejoice around Delta? Let us know and we will include it here next month.

Pot Luck, Sunday, October 15, 2023

There will be a true Pot Luck Fellowship Meal after worship on Sunday, October 15, 2023. Please sign up at the Commitment Center. All varieties of food are welcome!

Worship

Sunday, October 1, 2023
18th Sunday after Pentecost
Philippians 2:1-13
The Same Mind

Sunday, October 8, 2023
19th Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 19
Philippians 3:4b-14
The Goal

Sunday, October 15, 2023
20th Sunday after Pentecost
Philippians 4:1-9
Standing Firm

Sunday, October 22, 2023
21st Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 17:1-7
God Is For Us

Sunday, October 29, 2023
22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Reformation Sunday
Deuteronomy 34:1-12
**God Is at Work in Us,
Through Us, Around Us**

SESSION

Class of 2023
Doug Dykstra
Chuck Jennings
Sue Settle
Nancy Ellis

Class of 2024
Meredith Jackson

DEACONS

Class of 2023

Maureen Dykstra
Trudie Frick
Geri Jennings

Bonnie Reemsnyder
Jane Thomas
Art Kelley

Birthdays

Oct. 1	Jane Thomas	Oct. 18	Grace Bishop
Oct. 3	Jim Constandt	Oct. 20	Jim Dexter
Oct. 4	Margaret Strange	Oct. 21	Kathy Peters
Oct. 5	Jan Oudbier	Oct. 25	JoAnn Dexter
Oct. 9	Bill Settle	Oct. 29	Pat Baker
Oct. 10	Holly Henning	Oct. 30	Sue Settle
Oct 15	Sandy Akright	Oct. 31	Jeff Akright
Oct. 16	Mark Bradley		



Let Us Pray

Pray for the Strategic Planning Team. Also pray for the following people: week of October 1: Roger & Jan Small, Bill & Laurie Stirling, Margaret Strange; week of October 8: Ralph & Susan Swan, Jane Thomas, Ed Troshak; week of October 15: Jack & Sharon VanCourt, Brad Venman, Jon Vogler, Chuck Wilbur; week of October 22: Dan, Anna Marie, Isaiah, Ethan, Aiden, and Olivia Woloszyn; Ken, Jessica, Savannah, Callum, and Luke Wright; week of October 29: Vicki Zaikowski, Mengyao (Chloe) Zhao, Jeff & Sandy Akright, Don & Betty Aschom.



Celebration Choir

Thank you to all who responded to the email about Celebration Choir. We will be a smaller group, but that doesn't reflect on our enthusiasm for singing! Our first Sunday to sing this fall will be on October 15. I will get the music ready for you to collect in the choir room, near the church mailboxes. If you would like to sing and haven't been notified, please contact me at 517-323-4231. Thank you. Ellen Jackson

Prayer Care October, 2023

David Brock and family, David's mother died on September 26, in Indiana
Holly Brock, health concerns
Mary Ann Martin, health concerns
Jack Keys, Pain
Shirley Twichell, health concerns, cousin of Denise Colosky

Continuing Prayers October, 2023

Susan, Pat Baker's niece, cancer
Sharon Davis, son, Ali, poor living conditions, friend of Jon Vogler
Anna Grover, Richard Grover, health concerns
Jennifer Grover, sister of Richard, recovery from cancer
Barry, motorcycle accident, health concerns
Lisa Dingwell, health concerns
Donna Dickert, continuing health concerns
Mark Reed, friend of Mary Ann Martin, colon cancer
Nate Batterbee, Nancy Ellis' grandnephew, recovery from massive stroke and heart surgery
Sue Keys, continuing recovery and adjustment from broken arm
Flora Gilbert, health concerns
Kathy Peters, at Masonic Home, Alma
Sharon McPherson, health concerns
Adam LaPratt, son of Roger & Holly LaPratt
Holly LaPratt, health concerns



October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 18th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship Communion Change for Change 11:15 am Bible Study 2 pm Blessing of the Animals	2 1:30 pm Prayer Shawl 3:30 pm Spiritual Life 6:00 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts	3	4 9:30 am Prayers and Squares	5	6	7
8 19th Sunday after Pentecost Stewardship Sunday 10am Worship 11:15 am Bible Study	9 1:30 pm Prayer Shawl 6:00 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts 7 pm Resources	10	11 9:30 am Prayers and Squares	12	13	14
15 20th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11:15 am Pot Luck Fellowship Meal	16 1:30 pm Prayer Shawl 6:00 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts	17	18 9:30 am Prayers and Squares	19	20	21
22 21st Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11:15 am Bible Study	23 1:30 pm Prayer Shawl 6:00 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Session (Zoom) 7:00 OCD Support	24	25 9:30 am Prayers and Squares	26	27	28
29 22nd Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship	30 1:30 pm Prayer Shawl 6:00 Girl Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts	31				

Updated Calendar

Check out the church website for an up-to-date calendar at www.deltapresby.org. Thanks to Art for his work keeping it current.

The Ambassador

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September 28, 2023

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Wendy S. Pratt
Admin. Coordinator: Ellen Jackson
Clerk of Session: Meredith Jackson
Treasurer: Bill Stirling
Auditor: Joe Frick
Financial Secretary: Fran Johnston
Accompanist: Mengyao Zhao (Chloe)
Adult Choir Dir.: Ellen Jackson
Website Coordinator: Art Kelley



***"We are ambassadors for Christ, God making
His appeal through us." II Cor 5:20 .***

We're on the Web!
www.deltapresby.org

Announcements

Let Us Know. When you have prayer requests, would like a visit, are going to be out of town, or have a change in your contact information, please email the office at office@deltapresby.org or call and leave a message on voicemail.

Ambassadors. Delta's newsletter, The Ambassador, is sent out once a month. If you are currently NOT receiving this newsletter by email and would like to, please let the office know and we will put you on the email list.

Communication. We will be posting important updates on our website: www.deltapresby.org and on our Facebook page. If you have not liked our Facebook page yet, please do so that you will be able to see the updates. If you are not currently receiving updates by email and would like to, please email office@deltapresby.org and let us know. If you no longer want to receive email and prefer to receive news and information via U.S. Mail, please call the office and leave a voice mail if the office is closed.

Contributions. If you are not attending worship, please mail or drop off your offerings to the church. Twice a month Jim Constandt and Fran Johnston will come in to take care of them and get them deposited.

Website Calendar. If you have events that need to go on the website calendar, please let Art Kelley know.

Papergator. Feed our Papergator! The paper, books, and cardstock are recycled and the church is paid for the amount collected.