

Ministry Staff — How can we serve You?

Sr. Pastor: Rev. Matthew Burns; matthew@psrc.org / Children Ministries: Kate Martinka; kate@psrc.org / Worship Leader: Steve Martinka; steve@psrc.org / Office/Finance: Sadie Perkins; churchoffice@psrc.org/finance@psrc.org

Shepherding Pastorates — Alphabetical by last name:

A-Br — Elder Sandy Wynja & Ruth Bandstra
Bs-Eo — Elder Eric Wierenga & Deacon Karyn Schneider
Ep-Hl — Elder Chuck McGrath & Deacon Jodie Woudenberg
Hm-Mc — Elder Sue Cooper & Deacon Tanya Anema
Md-S — Elder Dawn Lefrancois & Deacon Dexter Greene
T-Z — Elder Tony Brookhouse & Deacon Mike O'Rourke

PLEASANT ST. KIDS — We would love to help your children become devoted followers of Christ! Check in and get a name tag at the kids cart in the fellowship hall before service.

- **NURSERY** (babies-age 3) during the service for Bible stories, music, play, and more!
- **KIDSTREET** (age 4-2nd grade) dismissed before sermon for a Bible story, craft/activity, music, and more!
- **ECHO** (3rd-5th grade) dismissed after the sermon to reflect and get to know each other, lasting 10 minutes. We don't meet on the last Sunday of each month.
- All ages are welcome to stay in the service. There is space under the balcony and in the fellowship hall if you need to get the wiggles out.

CARE — COME ALONGSIDE OTHERS

LET'S PRAY TOGETHER — Our loving sympathy to the Ebbeling family—wife Bev, daughters, Cara Zabilansky, Chris Epplett, Pat Lawrence, sister Ahleen and their families - in the passing of their loving husband, father, brother and grandfather, Hank—*May God give his soul eternal peace and a safe resting place with him. Our prayers for God's comfort are with you and your family right now.*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF HANK EBBELING

August 27, 1939— August 26, 2023

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life."

+ John 3:16

GROW — CULTIVATE YOUR FAITH

MIDWEEK @ PSCRC — Begins next Wednesday! Join us from 6:15pm to 8:00pm.

WOMEN OF PLEASANT STREET — Join us for *Coffee Break*, an informal community Bible study on Tuesday mornings, 9:30-11am, beginning Tuesday, September 12. We will start with a *Meet & Greet with tour of the Holy Land* and the following week we will begin studying *Isaiah: Call to Trust*. Childcare is provided.

FALL BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP— *London Street; a memoir* Join us Join us for a reading and discussion group this fall about what it was like to grow up in the CRC in the 1950's & 60's. Jane Griffioen was the daughter of Dutch immigrants, who lived in an immigrant community in Grand Rapids, MI. As she tells her story, we might find that it resonates with some of our stories too. Sign up in the connections corner to get a copy of the book. We meet on Wednesday evenings (opposite weeks of mid-week), starting September 13.

MENS BIBLE STUDY — We are excited to begin a new series starting Thursday, September 14 at 6:30am in the fellowship hall. We will be studying the book of Acts. Hope you can join us!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY — Will begin a new season on Monday, September 18 at 9:30am, studying the book of James. We would love to have new members join us. Please call LeeAnn Lukianuk at 603.793.9107 or Judy Metzger at 716.665.0899 for a study guide.

SERVE — CONTRIBUTE YOUR TALENTS & RESOURCES

SECOND OFFERING — Our second offering next week will be for the Pleasant Street Christian Education Assistance Fund.

REACH OUT — CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

HELP NEEDED — We need help with serving meals at Peace of Bread on Wednesday, September 13, from 5:15pm-6:30pm at the Presbyterian Church in Whitinsville. Please reach out to Keith VandenAkker 508.735.7764. Thank you!

The FAIRWOODS CHICKEN BBQ — Will be held on next Saturday, September 9 from 5-7pm.

WELCOME

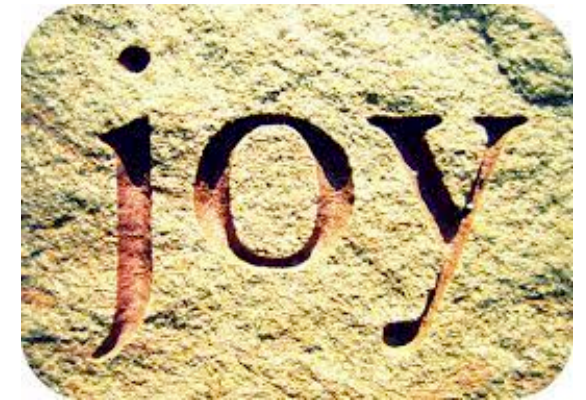
We're glad you joined us!

508.234.5268 +

Office Hours: 8am-4pm Mon-Fri

September 3, 2023 + 9:30am

"Rejoice in the Lord"



If you have been worshiping with us for a long time or you are entering the doors of a church for the first time, it is our hope that you will experience a kind welcome, a sense of genuine community, and the grace and truth of Jesus Christ that the Christian Church has celebrated for centuries.

LIVING THE STORY OF GOD THIS WEEK

M 6:30p Celebrate Recovery: Fellowship Hall
W 6:15p Midweek @ PS
6:30p Prayer Meeting: Prayer Room

Prayer of preparation

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place. Here, may the faithful find salvation and the careless be awakened. May the doubting find faith and the anxious find rest. May the young and old find inspiration through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

GATHER

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Congregation in the Lord Jesus Christ, Rejoice in the Lord always!

We will say it again, Rejoice!

Brothers and Sisters whom God loves and longs for - Our God has called us to this place.

We Rejoice!

Brothers and Sisters, God's joy and crown, Our God has called us to each other, to live as one in Christ.

We Rejoice!

Brothers and Sisters, those whom God calls friends, God has called us to himself through Christ and the Spirit.

We will say it again, Rejoice!

Hymns: *Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise* (PH 460)

For the Beauty of the Earth (PH 432)

RENEWAL

Opening Prayer

Call to Confession — Matthew 5: 1-12

Prayer of Confession God blesses those who realize their need for him, for the kingdom of heaven is given to them.

But we have been proud in spirit; inflated with our own self-sufficiency. Lord, bless us with the reminder of how needy we are.

God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

But we have not mourned our sins; we are insulated from the pain of the world. Lord, bless us with awareness of how our lives cause you grief.

God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

But we have presided as harsh judges; often swift to condemn others and lenient on ourselves. Lord, bless us with mercy before we can shift the blame somewhere else.

God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.

But we have defiled our hearts; we treat things as God and God as a thing to be used. Lord, bless us with renewed devotion.

God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called children of God.

But we are often at war with each other; demanding to be first, to be served, to be the most important. Lord, bless us with the gospel of your peace through service.

God blesses those who are persecuted because they live for God, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

But we have hid our faith from disapproving eyes. Lord bless us with gospel courage that we might no longer imagine suffering for your sake to be a mistake.

We confess in Silence

God of wisdom and love, we confess that we have turned from your ways. We remember that we are dust without you and turn to you now for wisdom and grace. Lord, have mercy upon us in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. AMEN.

Words of Assurance

Congregation in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord promises blessing on those who acknowledge their need of him. In the power of God's Holy Spirit receive these trustworthy words; God so loved the world that he gave his own dearly beloved Son so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have everlasting life.

The Lord is near to those who need him. To all who confess their sins, he says "your sins are forgiven". Full of the promised Holy Spirit Jesus says to us "follow me". Sisters and Brothers, trust in God's promises and begin anew your life with God and all people in the name of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn: And Can It Be (PH 267)

COMMIT

Morning Offerings: Ministries of Pleasant Street



Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

WORD

Morning Prayers

Song of Preparation: *Fill Thou My Life O Lord My God* (PH 547)

Philippians 4: 1-9 + "Rejoice in the Lord"

SONG: *May the Mind of Christ, My Savior* (PH 291)

SEND

Benediction

SONG: *Rejoice the Lord is King* (PH 408)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Jesus Christ.