

The Presby News

Canby Presbyterian Church

October 2020 Newsletter

Pastor's Pen October 2020

1 Corinthians 15:1-5

15 Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, 2 through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

3 For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, 4 and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,



I was asked to do a final newsletter (and Pastor's Pen) before I leave. This is almost an echo of my voice since by the time you read this I will be making sure the movers aren't destroying our belongings, or I will be searching through box after box looking for a can opener, or something like that.

The above passage does an excellent job of summing up the message that I hope you received from me over the last eight years. Certainly, this is the most important thing I could say and that you could learn, but the session asked me to leave with some final words of wisdom for you all as a congregation. I don't know if these words will qualify as wise, but I hope they do, and I hope they make sense to you.

One of this congregations' biggest strengths is caring for each other, checking in with one another, and praying for one another. It is almost like second nature for many of you, and I have little doubt it will continue, which it should. Loving our siblings in Christ is very important.

My biggest piece of advice for you is to keep looking outward into the community. Look for ways to help others outside the congregation. Look for the people that may need a place to become their spiritual home. Keep reflecting God's light into the community. It can be way too easy for a congregation to circle the wagons, batten the hatches, and hunker down waiting for another pastor to come. If you do this you will miss a lot of opportunities to shine that light.

You have a good group of elders on session, deacons, and other people who are on the church committees. I encourage you to continue to rely on each other and encourage each other to do God's work outside the church's doors.

I am confident that God will send you a new leader who will be able to help you with this at some point, but don't wait for that time. You are more than capable of moving forward on your own. Just have faith that God will lead you in the right direction.

I am not your pastor anymore, but please rest assured that you will continue to be in my prayers and thoughts as we continue down our separate paths. I am immensely grateful for the knowledge I've gained with you and the love you have shown my family and me.

Blessings,
Pastor Steve





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Church Events This Month

Sun. Oct. 4, 9:30 am

Clunky Can Offering

Thu. Oct. 8, 6:30 pm

Finance/property meeting

Wed. Oct. 14, 1:00 pm

Deacon meeting

6:30 pm

Session

Lectors

Oct. 4 Marge Frazeur

Oct. 11

Oct. 18

Oct. 25

Ushers

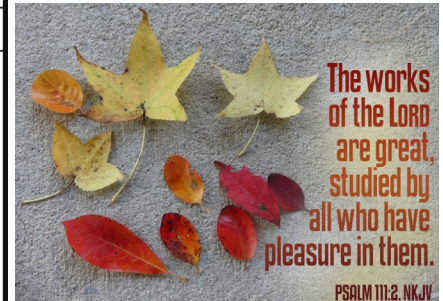
Oct. 4

Oct. 11

Oct. 18

Oct. 25

October 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Deacon Bulletin Delivery

Oct. 4 Chuck Houtman

Oct. 11 Dede Burlingame

Oct. 18 Jody Olson

Oct. 25 Betty Rehn

Flower Care

Barb Vanstrom



Oct. 6, Marcia Gingles

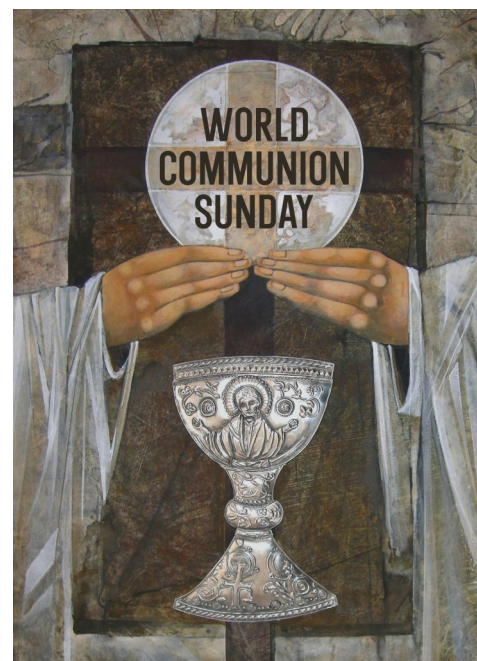
Oct. 8, Dani Thovson

Oct. 10, Dominic Olson

Oct. 11, Judy Dillon

Oct. 24, Stuart Rhea

Oct. 26, – Gene DeWit, Kim (Dillon) Mielke



Communion Oct. 4

If you would like to request prayers and to activate the **Prayer Tree**, please use the church email address, fpccanby@gmail.com (messages left on the church's answering machine may not be retrieved in a timely manner). Someone will then make the necessary contacts to begin the prayer tree lists. Thank you.



Stay Connected: www.fpccanby.org is the church website with calendar info. Find us on Facebook (First Presbyterian Church of Canby, MN) The church email address is: fpccanby@gmail.com

Our Sunday Morning Service is 9:30 am.



MEMORIAL GIFT SUGGESTIONS

IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING A MEMORIAL GIFT TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES ARE SUGGESTED:

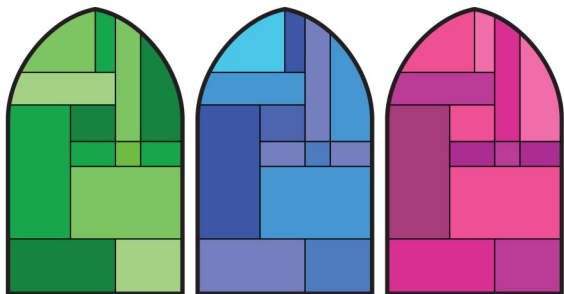
- BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS • ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT
- LANDSCAPING • MISSION PROJECTS • LIBRARY
- UNDESIGNATED • MUSIC



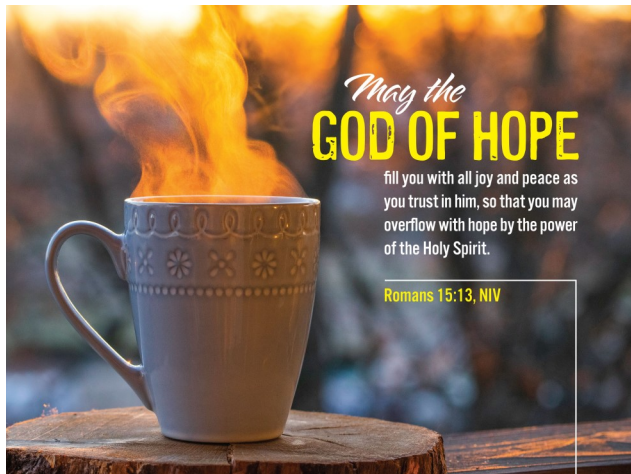
In-person and Facebook Worship and Offerings

This month we are going to try meeting together in person, but we will be continuing the Sunday services on Facebook. The service will be recorded Sunday morning and then uploaded to Facebook as a premier as soon as possible. It will then be available in its entirety afterwards. If you come for in-person worship you are required to wear a mask and maintain social distancing.

If you are not joining us in person we ask that you mail in your tithes and offerings to the church.



Welcome to Worship!




RFB ®


Presents

COFFEE WITH JESUS


Wonderful Counselor




So, Jesus, they say you're the "Wonderful Counselor." How about some wonderful counsel, eh, boss?



Do justly, Kevin. Love mercy. Walk humbly with me.



I wasn't prepared to be shamed, Jesus.



It's not shaming, Kev, Just instruction. "Counsel," as you asked.

©Radio Free Babylon® All rights reserved. When you get real with God, he gets real with you. The more honest you are with him, the more he is with you. Don't believe me? Try it! When you pray with your whole heart, God is going to show you stuff. It might not be pretty. It might be hard to take, but it's going to open up worlds for you. Opportunities for growth. Ways in which you can become a better Christian. Don't fear that that's some New Age crap. That's God. Embrace it. Grow.

A lesson in appreciation

During a church anniversary celebration, a pastor overheard a group discussing various congregational leaders over the years. Her ears perked up when an older member said, "Whenever someone asks which of our pastors I liked best, my answer is always, 'The one we have at any given time is my favorite.'"

What a relief for the pastor to hear. God sends each shepherd to us with a specific set of spiritual gifts and then works through those gifts to bless us.

A new leader will not be the same as a previous one, but that doesn't mean they are inherently better or worse, just different.



Session Synopsis- September 16, 2020

*August income was less than expenses by minus \$770.56. Year-to-date income was less than expenses by minus \$13,189.06. \$765 was returned to continuing education budget. \$1,434.92 was received from the James Rhea Trust and \$1,959.89 was received from the Irene Rhea Trust. There were no other unusual income or expenses.

*Pastor's report-

- Approved Karen Houtman as pulpit supply on Sunday, October 4. Worldwide Communion Sunday.
- Approved the Rev. SanDawna Ashley as pulpit supply on Sunday, October 11.

CAMA report-

The Connection is currently closed because of no transportation from school.

Clerk's report-

- Effective October 4, the Rev. Nathan Lamb, Pipestone will Moderate the Session and Jenn Lamb, Pipestone will serve as our Liaison.
- Approved Session meeting date change- the second Wednesday of each month.
- An annual review of membership will be done- report to Session in November.
- Approved a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, September 27- Business to be addressed: dissolution of Tyykila pastoral relationship and a By-Law change.

Finance/Property report-

- Approved the lease of a copier from A&B Business Solutions.

Personnel report-

- The annual review of the janitor, Robin Enstad was done. Approved a pay raise to \$12 per hour.

Old Business-

- Following several months of discussion: Approved opening to in-person worship in October beginning with Sunday, October 4.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, October 14, 2020 contingent on Rev. Lamb availability.

Just be — and be still

Various versions of the following sentiment are posted online: "I am a human being, not a human doing. It's okay to just be sometimes." Many of us get anxious if we think we're not doing enough, but peace activist Thich Nhat Hanh insists it's not a waste of time to just be: "To be alive, to be peaceful, to be joyful, to be loving ... is what the world needs most."

During the pandemic, when people were urged to stay home to slow the virus' spread, we had to think hard about how to continue being the church while limited in what we could go out and "do." Yet church leaders reminded us that we were actually loving our neighbors by staying home — by being less active.

It's sometimes okay — ideal, even — to just be. In quieting our bodies, minds and hearts, we may find ourselves more often in prayer, more aware of God's presence and more nourished for when the time is right to again take up more active forms of ministry, peacemaking and love. "In quietness and trust is your strength" (Isaiah 30:15, NIV).

—Heidi Mann

