



MAPLE LEAF



First Presbyterian Church of Maple Plain

February 2021

*As it is, there are many parts, but one body.
The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!"
And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"
On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,
and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor.
And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty,
while our presentable parts need no special treatment.
But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it,
so that there should be no division in the body,
but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.
If one part suffers, every part suffers with it;
if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.
— 1 Corinthians 12: 20-26*

Ash Wednesday

Pastor Barbara Anne Keely

We will gather for our Ash Wednesday service on February 17th, at 6:30pm.

Because of our pandemic worship limitations, we will not be able to have the Imposition of Ashes, usually a central part of this service. We will instead have a service of Scripture, reflection, and prayer.

Matthew 6:1-15 will introduce us to The Lord's Prayer, and a brief sermon will address "Whenever you pray." We hope you will join us, in the sanctuary or virtually, as we begin the Season of Lent.



Mid-Week Lenten Services

Pastor Barbara Anne Keely

"The Lord's Prayer" will be the focus of our mid-week Lenten services, at 6:30pm, on Wednesdays, February 24th through March 24th. During each worship service, we will reflect on a phrase of the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. We will be using the Ecumenical Version of the Lord's Prayer, as printed in our blue Presbyterian Hymnal:

February 24: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name."

March 3: "Your kingdom come,"

March 10: "Your will be done, on earth as in heaven."

March 17: "Give us today our daily bread;"

March 24: "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

April 1 (Maundy Thursday): "Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil."

April 4 (Easter): "For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever."

FROM THE PASTOR

In the Early Church, Good Friday and Easter were the two most important days of the year. The death of Christ on the cross and Jesus' Resurrection were celebrated as the essential days for us to know and experience our salvation.

Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday, emerged as a time of intentional preparation, so that believers would be spiritually prepared to engage the depth of these days.

Today we still experience the spiritual gift of Holy Week (as Maundy Thursday was added to these Last Days), for in these few days we are immersed in the promise, power, and miracle of God's work through Jesus Christ, to bring us back into perfect relationship with God.

This year our Lenten services will focus on prayer, in particular The Lord's Prayer. We say it in worship every week; some of us pray it as part of our daily prayers. We talk about knowing it "by heart", but sometimes I think we recite it more "by head".



Ash Wednesday will focus on Matthew 6, as Jesus teaches his disciples this prayer. Then each Wednesday during Lent, Maundy Thursday and Easter, we will explore a section of The Lord's Prayer. I know we can recite it, but do we allow it to touch our hearts and draw us close to God?

I hope you will join us for Ash Wednesday Service, even though we are unable to distribute ashes this year. I invite you to join our study of The Lord's Prayer throughout Lent. Let's discover together how it can draw us closer to the one who taught it to us.

Dear Church Family,

On behalf of my family, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks for your love, support and acts of kindness that you expressed during my father Ron Maas' illness and passing. Losing a loved one is never easy. Having a terminally ill loved one who passes away during a pandemic is extremely challenging and isolating. Please know you made a difference with every card sent, meal prepared, errand run, kind and encouraging word spoken. Your prayers carried us and are still helping to carry us through this difficult time. Our hope is found in the Lord. Thank you for being Jesus with skin on.

With Gratitude,
Julie Maas-Kusske, Bart, Adam and Andrew Kusske

Thank you!

Marlene Schultze

I have missed you all so much! I am so grateful for all of your support through my many surgeries. The latest procedures have been for cataracts. I had one last Wednesday, which went well and my second will be February 9th. I appreciate your prayers, cards, and calls. I love you all and look forward to hugging you when we can do that!

Love, Marlene

Sunday Worship Outline

Pastor Barbara Anne Keely

February 7

Mark 1:29-39 & Psalm 63:1-8

“Jesus prayed.”

(If you are attending virtually, remember to prepare your own communion elements beforehand.)

February 14

Mark 9:2-9 & 2 Corinthians 4:5-6

“Listen to Him!”

February 17 — Ash Wednesday

Matthew 6:1-15

“Whenever you pray,”

February 21

Psalm 25:1-10 & Mark 1:12-13

“Teach Me Your Paths.”

February 28

Mark 8:27-38

“Who Do You Say That I Am?”



Sue Potter

Holy Yoga is continuing Sundays at FPC. It is generally every Sunday at 10:30am, with Jess again as our instructor.

Masks are required, and there is a limit of 10 participants. But don't worry, we have never had more than six. There will be room for you!



Pat Hasse	4
Shawn Elasky	4
Grace Nde	7
Joan Clark	17

Troy Moeller	20
Zoe Ann Palmer	20
Lee Dressel	27

There are no anniversaries this month.

Pastor Nominating Committee

Mark Anderson

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) continues to meet weekly. We have made progress on the work of filling out the Ministry Information Form (MIF). This form contains information about our church that will be read by potential applicants. The information includes facts about our church, desired leadership competencies and characteristics of a new pastor, needs of the community, our vision for the future, the church's mission goals and what we need to accomplish those goals.

Our plan is to have the MIF completed and ready for Session review by February 18th.

Please continue to pray for us to receive God's wisdom and guidance as we go through this search process.

If you have any questions regarding the work of the PNC, please send them to Mark Anderson at m.d.anderson@frontiernet.net or see me in person at church.



Share Your Time and Talents

Julie Maas-Kusske, Liturgist Coordinator

Do you enjoy leading God's people in worship? If you answered yes to that question, then I encourage you to pray about serving in the liturgist role. You can commit to as many or as few times a year as you wish. The bulletin will be sent to you in advance so you can prepare for leading worship.

If you have never served as the liturgist and are considering it but hesitant, please reach out to me and we can discuss it further. I would be happy to support you and show you how.

If you have served in the past in this role and would like to continue to serve, please let me know. Soon I will begin scheduling liturgist for April, May, and June. Thank you!

Blessings,
Julie Maas-Kusske
Liturgist Coordinator
Contact info:
763-479-6010
jmkfpc@gmail.com

Join the Mission Committee!

Pat Hasse






The Mission Committee is in need of one or two new volunteers. I, Pat Hasse, am the mission elder. Carol Anderson is one volunteer.



Call Pat (763-479-2786) with questions.
THANKS.

FEBRUARY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00 AM In the Sanctuary and Streaming Worship <i>Congregational Meeting</i> 11:00 AM-12:00 PM Holy Yoga	1	2 6:30 PM Deacons on Zoom	3	4	5	6
7 9:00 AM In the Sanctuary and Streaming Worship 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Holy Yoga	8	9 7:00 PM Admin Committee on Zoom	10	11	12	13
14 9:00 AM In the Sanctuary and Streaming Worship 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Holy Yoga 	15	16  PRESIDENTS DAY	17 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Worship 	18 6:30 PM Session on Zoom	19	20
21 <i>Maple Leaf Deadline</i> 9:00 AM In the Sanctuary and Streaming Worship 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Holy Yoga 	22	23	24 6:30 PM Lenten Worship	25	26	27
28 9:00 AM In the Sanctuary and Streaming Worship 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Holy Yoga 	1	2 6:30 PM Deacons on Zoom	3 6:30 PM Lenten Worship	4	5	6

The latest calendar is available at: catchourspirit.org.



First Presbyterian Church
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Address correction requested.



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763-479-2158

Office Hours: Closed

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