

From the Pastor: Joy

The Joy of our third Advent candle in Latin is Gaudete, pronounced Gow-de-tay meaning to rejoice. This portion of the Gaudete is used also in Philippians 4:4, when it says, "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice." Philippians uses Gaudete to rejoice, and that is what we all as children of God need to do through Advent is rejoice. The Spirit overshadows us when we ask for us to glorify God. We are essentially spiritual beings looking for fulfillment and Joy/ Rejoicing are the words that fulfill that void in our soul. God is willing to fulfil the void in our life, if we are wanting it fulfilled and ask the Almighty. When Apostle Paul conveyed to the Christians in the first century, when we are raptured, it will be quicker than a blink of our eye. Do we think that in that blink of an eye, we'll be able to take time to receive Jesus at that moment. A nano-second is a time of 5.4 thousandth of a second—the blink of an eye. We can't do anything that quick upon Jesus' arrival. That short of time does not allow us to accept him. That is why we rejoice in the kingdom present today and receive Jesus in our hearts as the King of kings. Merry Christmas to all and to all a Joyous time of rejoicing!

Annual Meeting:

The Annual meeting will be held after worship on Sunday, January 28, 2024. Please mark your calendars!

Birthday Luncheon:

Birthday luncheon will be Tuesday, December 26, 2023 at Leo's at 11:30 AM. You can find the birthday list for January on the table in the Association room.

Office Closed:

Office: Will be closed on Monday, December 25th for Christmas. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, the 26th.

Christmas Joy Offering

Please remember the Christmas Joy offering. This offering 50% helps young people pay for their education, the other 50% helps retired ministry workers. You can find envelopes in the pews and information on the table in the entry to the Association room.

Memorials:

In Loving Memory of David McKim

Robert and Karen Rowden
Barbara Skirmants

In Loving Memory of Cheryl Cattane

Robert and Karen Rowden

In Memory of Sally Bush

Robert and Karen Rowden



Church Staff	
Pastor Rev. Hal Shafer	Faith Nurse Linda Hamilton
Office Admin. Linda Warren	Music Director TBD
Custodian Team Work of Lapeer	Organist Katherine Nold

Please Pray For...	
Joe Adamson (Shirley Adamson's son) Sharon Walker Bob Barber Chuck Hale Betty Gamblin Julie McKenna (Mike Mosher's sister) Corey Lovell (Wanda Knapp's grandson) Ruth Stover Lange Jim and Phyllis Dickie Lena Brown Vera Grayhek Cindy Beebe (Friend of Linda Warren) Jeanette Gentsch (Kim Herderich's Mom) Wayne and Lynne Strandberg John Kleindl Carolyn Lyons Family of David McKim Family of Cheryl Cattane (Nancy Sieting's sister) Family of Sydney Petrie Kotarski (Cerise Dixon's sister)	



December Birthdays

10	Bob Lee
12	Deb Peplinski
16	Paul Lenneman
25	Grace Van Dyke
29	Holly Smith
31	Sam McKim Aubrey Nagy



Making Connections

Office Hours: M-F, 9am-2pm
Pastor Hal's Hours T-F, 9am-2pm

Pews News Deadline: If you want your news item in Pews News, please submit your info the Wednesday before the next issue.

Going Deeper: To learn about becoming a Christian or a member here, please contact our office.

Per Capita 2023: \$29.77

433 N. Calhoun St. | 810-664-8565 | fpclapeer.org | Facebook.com/FPC.Lapeer | Find us on YouTube!

Attendance:
12-03-2023: Adults 59- Children 4
12-10-2023: Adults 67- Children 0

Nov 30, 2023:
General Account:
11-30-23 Balance: \$12,825.361
11-30-23 Balance: \$15,035.18

Session & Committees

Bob Rowden (Missions)
Scott Placeway (Health Min)
Kathryn Lawter (House —
Finance)
Mike Mosher (House)
Bob Glasgow (Personnel—
Finance)
Barbara Skirmants (Finance)
TJ Craven (Christian Ed.)
Lauren Emmons (Co - Chair
Worship)
Lori Curtis (Co-Chair Wor-
ship)

Deacons

Chris Dungey
Toni Emmons
Deb Moore
Darlene Placeway
Carol Jaeger
Francis Pitts
Nancy Pitts
Kim Herderich
Virginia Harris
Julene Van Dyke

Other Ministry Leaders

Scott Bodell (Ushers)
Carol Jaeger (Pres. Women)
Co Moderators (Faith Circle)
Co Moderators (Priscilla Cir-
cle)