

# KICKOFF SUNDAY

## SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

THE POWER OF CONNECTION



congregation  
•  
campus  
•  
community

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**8:30 a.m.**

Worship Service, Chapel

**9:30 a.m.**

Carol Choir Rehearsal

\* Confirmation Class

PCYG Bible Exploration

\* Peoples Forum

**10:30 a.m.**

Worship Service, Sanctuary

Children's Sunday School

**11:30 a.m.**

Chicken Dinner

\* Coppertones Rehearsal

Lunch & Lounge | Campus Ministry

\* Dance 149

**6:10 p.m.**

Youth Choir

**6:30 p.m.**

High School Youth Group

\* Begins 9/16/18

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## WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

**5:30 p.m.**

Community Meal

**6:00 p.m.**

Youth Choir Rehearsal

Children's Education

**6:30 p.m.**

Adult Formation Classes

Peoples Church Youth Group

Yoga Class



## THE PEOPLES CHURCH

200 W. Grand River Ave. | East Lansing, MI 48823  
517.332.5073 | [ThePeoplesChurch.com](http://ThePeoplesChurch.com)

## THE PEOPLES CHURCH STAFF

Office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings.

**Reception Desk** 332.5073

**Rev. Case Van Kempen** 908.4442  
Interim Senior Pastor, Presbyterian Church (USA)  
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**Rev. Betsy Aho** 332.6074  
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**Rev. Drew Filkins** 908.4448  
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**Dee Przybylski** 908.4446  
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**Dr. Jonathan Reed**, Music Director  
**Elizabeth Reed**, Children's Music Director  
**Judy Kabodian**, Musician in Residence  
office@thepeopleschurch.com

**Abigail Waller, LMSW**, Grief Counselor  
*Appointments by Pastoral Referral*

## COUNCIL OF ELDERS

Elders meet at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Robertson Room.

**Alan Canady**, Chairperson  
elders@thepeopleschurch.com



## ALL ARE WELCOME!

*Whether you are young or old, rich or poor, doubtful or hopeful...no matter where you are in your faith journey, YOU are welcome here. For those with children, be assured that noises and wiggling are signs of a church that is alive and growing; your entire family is welcome in worship.*

## CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

On **September 16**, the Pastoral Search Team will be conducting a Congregational Survey during both worship services. If you know that you will not be present on the 16th, copies of the survey will be available today and next week at the Welcome Center. You can also request a copy via email (cvankempen@thepeopleschurch.com).

All completed surveys must be returned or emailed to church by Monday, September 17. Thank you in advance for your participation in this important part of the Search Team's self-study of our congregation.

Children through 5th grade are invited to participate in Sunday School following the Children's Moment during service. Please be sure to check-in your child at one of the kiosks located in Friendship Hall, prior to worship service, to receive a name tag for your child. Julie Bills, Children's Christian Education Director, will lead the children to the classrooms on the third floor for Sunday School. At the conclusion of worship, you may pick up your child on the third floor; please show the security code you received at check-in to the teacher.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP | SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

### **Prelude**

"Prelude and Fugue in B Flat Major"  
Judy Kabodian, organ

J.S. Bach

### **Welcome to The Peoples Church!**

Rev. Case Van Kempen

*Worship is both personal and communal, formal and informal, intimate and casual. Here at The Peoples Church, we recognize that people come to worship God in both joy and pain, faith and doubt, with laughter and with tears. Our worship tries to reflect a desire both for meditation and celebration. Please know you are invited to participate in any and all ways you feel led. Our songs, prayers, words and actions are the works of imperfect people trying to worship a perfect God.*

### **Pastor Search Committee Update**

Jim Kelly, Chairperson

### **Call to Worship** (Psalm 81:1)

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

**People: Amen.**

Leader: We gather in God's house for many reasons: to celebrate births, to witness marriages, to support one another at the time of death. But when we gather on this day at this hour, the psalmist makes clear our purpose:

**People: "Sing for joy to God our strength; shout aloud to the God of Jacob!"**

Leader: Let us worship God.

### **Gathering Hymn**

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God!"

No. 32

### **Procession of the Light of Christ**

Anna Harvey and Evie Laxton, Acolytes

### **Call to Confession**

Rev. Betsy Aho

Leader: God takes broken promises and turns them into vows of faithfulness. God takes our biggest failings and shapes lives of service. God listens to our prayers of confession and changes them into songs of mercy. Let us come to the One who pours forgiveness into our lives.

### **Prayer of Confession**

**God of glory, in a world where we worry about tomorrow before enjoying today, we race by your moments of grace, of peace. In a flood of worries, which can overwhelm us, we may miss that assurance that you have not cut us off from your**

(continued)

**mercy. In the raging storm of our desires, we may ignore that feast of hope, of joy, of life you offer to us. Forgive us and have mercy on us, Guardian of our souls. In humility, may we offer our lives to others. In love, may we share your grace with everyone we meet. In hope, may we wait for you all our days, as you come to us in the life and joy of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

### ***Assurance of Pardon***

**Leader:** In this place we find God's Word, God's way, God's love, God's forgiveness. What more do we need to sustain us as we continue along the way?

**People:** **In every wilderness, on every journey, in every moment, in every life, in every heart, we receive the daily gifts we need – God's hope, God's mercy, God's joy. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.**

**Congregational Response** "Do Not Be Afraid" (chorus only) No. 76

**Do not be afraid, for I am with you. Chosen and beloved, you are my own.**

**Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you: by your name I called you for my own.**

**Ordination and Installation of Elders** (10:30 a.m.)

Kate Jones • Cal Kerr • Julie Pierce

### ***Statement of Faith***

**We believe the teachings of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and with the help of God, we will strive daily to live the life of purity, unselfishness and service which he exemplified to the world.**

### ***First Reading***

Genesis 6:5-22

(Pew Bible Page 6; Large Print 8)

**Communion** (8:30 a.m.)

**Children's Moment** (10:30 a.m.)

Rev. Drew Filkins

**Passing the Peace of Christ** *(Please stand if able)*

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Anthem** (10:30 a.m.)

"God of the Deep"

Sanctuary Choir, directed by Dr. Jonathan Reed

Dan Forrest

### ***Second Reading***

Genesis 9:8-17

(Pew Bible Page 8; Large Print 12)

### ***Sermon***

"Conflicts, Covenants and Connections"

Rev. Case Van Kempen

 [#Connect2TPC #TPCsermon](https://twitter.com/Connect2TPC)

**Prayers of the People**

*(During the pastoral prayer there will be a time to offer prayers of joy and concern, voiced aloud or silently for and on behalf of others.)*

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**Thanksgiving and Dedication of Gifts****Offertory** (10:30 a.m.)

"Abide, O Dearest Jesus"

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

**Act of Praise**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Lord, let our congregation be a witness to you: immersed in scripture, constant in prayer, joyful in worship, generous in giving; a loving, supportive community reaching out to those in need. Accept these gifts we offer, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**

"In the Midst of New Dimensions"

No. 315

**Benediction** *(Please stand if able)***Benediction Response**

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
Know God will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

**Postlude**

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

arr. Don Wyrzten

**Today's Floral Offering**

*Given in appreciation of The Peoples Church Sanctuary Choir, by Judy Kabodian.*

## MONDAY MORNING BIBLE

Monday Morning Bible will begin on **Monday, September 17, 2018**. Pastor Drew will open up the often overlooked Hebrew scriptures of Leviticus and shed some light on these ancient laws. Join us in the Robertson Room at 11:00 a.m. each Monday. All are welcome to participate.



## EDGEWOOD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Edgewood Village tutoring and mentoring programs are starting up soon. Tutors for K-5 are needed Monday through Thursday, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. This is a one-on-one or small group setting. Usually tutors sign up for one a day week. Mentors are also needed for young women and young men on Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. This is a group setting with various activities and purposeful discussions led by the Edgewood Village staff. Contact Mimi Burpee, 517.349.0806 or [mimburpee@gmail.com](mailto:mimburpee@gmail.com) for more information.

## THE PEOPLES FORUM

The Peoples Forum will resume on **Sunday, September 16, 2018**, at 9:30 a.m. in the Robertson Room. To kick us off historian Carol Brownell will share her multi-media history of the Spartan Marching Band. Join us!

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

WNL! is back on **Wednesday, September 12, 2018**. Join Pastor Case in the Robertson Room, as he leads a discussion based on his book, *Hard Questions People Ask About the Christian Faith*. This discussion will tackle some difficult questions that people ask about faith and provide some answers. Join us at 6:30 p.m. (after the community meal at 5:30 p.m.).

## MEN'S WEDNESDAY NOON GROUP

The Men's Wednesday Noon Discussion Group will begin to meet again on **Wednesday, September 12, 2018**. The group meets every Wednesday from 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. in the church library. All are welcome!

## NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

A new women's group, Connected Hearts in Christ (CHICs) will start on Thursday, September 13, 2018. This group is for women of all ages and will meet in the Robertson Room from 6:45 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. This study will kick-off with the topic of trusting God and embracing the unpredictable events of life based on the book, *Unexpected* by Christine Caine. For more information contact Beth Lundy at [lundybb@comcast.net](mailto:lundybb@comcast.net) or call 610.246.0029.

## TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP

Join us Tuesday morning's for fellowship and wonderful faith-focused discussion. Beginning this fall, we will be reading Rev. Case Van Kempen's book, *Daniel: Daring Faith in Dangerous Times*. We gather at 7:00 a.m. each Tuesday in the Robertson Room.



## VISITATION TEAM

The Peoples Church Visitation Team will be meeting on **Tuesday, October 9, 2018**, at 1:00 p.m. in the Robertson Room. Rev. Case Van Kempen will be our guest speaker. We invite all current visitation members and anyone who is interested in being a visitor to join us. Team members visit church members who can no longer attend church on a regular basis. If you are interested in joining the Visitation Team, or know of anyone who would like a visitor, contact Pat Brogan at 517.337.1446 or Grethcen Rosenbrook at 517.332.5132.

**THE POWER OF CONNECTION**



## **CONNECT WITH US!**

**Join us outside following  
today's 10:30 a.m. worship  
service for our  
2018 KICKOFF CELEBRATION  
AND CHICKEN DINNER!**

## **ELECTRIFYING OPPORTUNITIES!**

**Get information on:**

- **Groups**
- **Events**
- **Bible studies**
- **Activities and more!**



Peoples Church Campus Ministry is a welcoming place to explore faith and grow alongside other students. Peoples Church Campus Ministry is for undergrads through doctoral students!

### **SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP AND LUNCH & LOUNGE**

10:30 a.m. Worship Service (Main Sanctuary)

11:30 a.m. Lunch & Lounge  
(FREE lunch and great discussion!  
Meet in Friendship Hall)

### **THURSDAY EVENINGS: DINNER AND BIBLE STUDY | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

Beginning September 13, Peoples Church Campus Ministry gathers in The Lounge (lower level of the church) for conversational Bible Study that is open to people in every stage of their faith journey. Visit [ThePeoplesChurch.com](http://ThePeoplesChurch.com) or contact Rev. Betsy Aho at: [eaho@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:eaho@thepeopleschurch.com) for more information and to see our upcoming special events



### **WEEKLY PCYG PROGRAMS**

#### **Sundays (beginning today!)**

9:30 a.m. Bible Exploration for 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders in the Youth Den

10:30 a.m. Worship for everyone

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. High School Youth Group for 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders in the Youth Den

#### **Wednesdays (beginning September 12)**

5:30 p.m. Community Meal for everyone

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group for 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the Youth Den

For more information contact Joe Kennedy at: [jkennedy@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:jkennedy@thepeopleschurch.com).

## **PRACTICING PEACE:**

*Developing Spiritual Practices That Foster Peaceful Living*

## **WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT**

**September 21-23, 2018 • St. Francis Retreat Center**

**Registration going on now! • [wpc@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:wpc@thepeopleschurch.com)**

Sponsored by:  *Women  
of Peoples Church*