

SENIOR PASTOR

FINDING A REBELLIOUS RHYTHM

Lent begins this month with Ash Wednesday on Feb 18. That day we will offer two worship services: 12:00 p.m. in the McCune Chapel and 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary as part of our *Wednesday Night Live!* programming. All are welcome to join us for this time of prayer and the imposition of ashes.



This season of Lent is characterized by times of preparation for and contemplation of God's transformative and reconciling work through Jesus Christ.

As Pastor Drew and I discussed this important part of the liturgical calendar, we were struck by its audacity. The actions of Jesus are such an affront to logic, cultural decency and expected behavior for the time.

The theme of rebellion kept coming to our minds as we talked through the events leading up to the Passion; those days of Jesus' life we consider each year during the 40 days approaching Easter.

What we do as Christians continues this trend of rebellion against norms in our society by emphasizing love, grace and compassion. This year, I'd like you to consider Lent as a time of discernment about the rebellion of God's people, the faithful and unfaithful, and how Jesus' life, death and resurrection are a direct response to them.

Each Sunday in Lent, we will be talking about rebellion. Specifically, the weeks of Lent will include the following concepts: Submission as Rebellion Against Individuality, Giving as Rebellion Against Contentment, Foolishness as Rebellion Against Wisdom, Loss as Rebellion Against Ego, Service as Rebellion Against Honor, and Humility as Rebellion Against Power.

As an added challenge, I'd like to invite you to read through the book of Genesis with the congregation this year throughout Lent. The incredible stories of this first book of the Bible are rooted in the notion of rebellion and forgiveness, suffering and redemption and fear and comfort. Each week at *WNL!*, the passages from Genesis will be explored and discussed, in addition to regular online comments and conversations through our social media outlets.

I hope you'll consider joining in these dialogues and participating in the journey toward the cross with The Peoples Church this Lent. Be amazed by the ways God has redeemed us in the past, continues to call us today and promises to connect us together in the future.

Peace and grace,

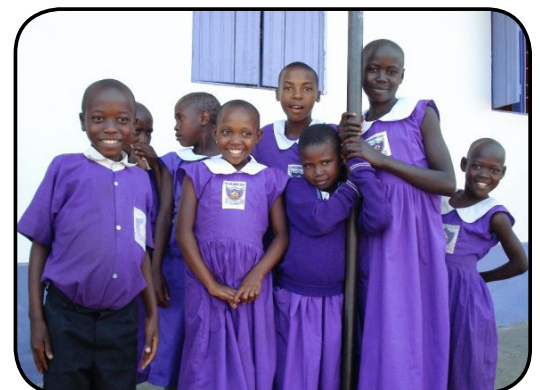
Pastor Andrew

ASH WEDNESDAY is Feb. 18. Worship Services will be celebrated at Noon in the Chapel and 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



AIDS ORPHANS PROJECT FOUNDER PRESENTS ON 2015 MISSION TRIP TO UGANDA ON FEB. 4 AND 8

Can one person make a difference in the world? Twesigye Jackson Kaguri overcame tremendous odds to help orphans in Uganda. Come hear his inspirational story of faith and service. Join Jackson on Feb. 4 at **WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!** at 6:30 p.m. in the Centennial Room and the **PEOPLES FORUM** next Sunday, Feb. 8. at 9:30 a.m. in the Robertson Room. Peoples Church members will travel to Uganda from Oct. 18-28 to serve as missionaries with The Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project. If you are interested in traveling with us to Uganda or supporting this mission opportunity, contact Pastor Andrew.



Join us each Sunday for interesting and informative "Voices of the Community" at 9:30 a.m. in the Robertson Room.

FEB. 1 | RESTORATIVE JUSTICE with Rick Shafer, Associate Director for Student Life - Judicial Affairs.

FEB. 8 | THE NYAKA AIDS ORPHANS PROJECT with its founder and executive director, Twesigye Jackson Kaguri.

FEB. 15 | TBA

FEB. 22 | EDGEWOOD VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP with Barbara Scott, Council of Elders and Community Engagement Ministry member.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

*80 & OVER

- 6 - Martha Davidson
- 11 - Eleanor Chapin
- 15 - Thelma Hansen
- 15 - John Wales
- 18 - Roger Grove
- 19 - Irene Cantlon
- 22 - Shirley Noetzold
- 24 - Wilma Hicks

ANNIVERSARIES

*MILESTONE & 60+

- 22 - Al & Yvonne Hafner (61)

If we missed you, please accept our apology. Contact the office to make sure we have your correct information on file.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

CELEBRATING OUR LEGACY

BOOK PUBLISHED ON LIFE OF FORMER PASTOR, LIBRARY NAMESAKE

There are some great rooms with names attached to them that constitute our beautiful building – the Robertson Room, the McCune Chapel, Snider Social Hall, the Telder Room. One of my favorites is the Fischbach Library.



Being able to have many fine resources just a short walk away from the office is invaluable. Our meeting spaces help us to welcome people in a way that feels like being at home.

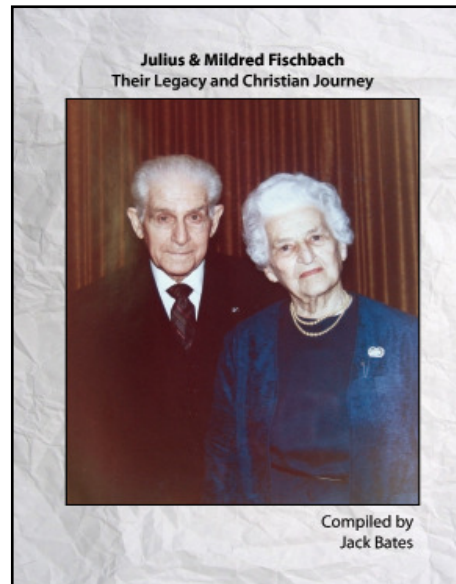
While I have developed a special fondness for The Fischbach Library, I was unaware of the life and legacy of its namesake – that is until I came to know long-time church member Jack Bates.

Early last year, Jack brought a large three-ring scrapbook of articles, biographical information and personal correspondence to my attention. As I looked through its pages, I knew that more people needed to see this wonderful collection. It was with great love and respect that Jack compiled this book about the lives and legacies of the Rev. Dr. Julius Fischbach and his beloved wife, Mildred.

Julius Fischbach had a long and powerful career here in the Lansing area. He served as associate pastor at The Peoples Church from 1972 until his second retirement at the age of 86 in 1980.

As a child, Jack attended the First Baptist Church of Lansing, where the Rev. Fischbach served as pastor. Their admiration for one another grew throughout their lifetime and it is apparent throughout this book.

After he shared these memories



with me, I have began working with Jack to publish the scrapbook into a bound paperback book. The first copies of that book, "Julius & Mildred Fishbach: Their Legacy and Christian Journey," arrived in the church office at the end of January.

I am excited for more people to be inspired as they discover how Julius and Mildred Fischbach ministered to The Peoples Church, the Lansing area and the Kingdom of God.

We are indebted to Jack Bates for his dedication in compiling this material about this beloved pastor.

It is the legacy of the former pastors like the Rev. Fischbach that inspire me to continue my ministry here with enthusiasm and integrity. I am excited for the future of The Peoples Church.

Let us continue to celebrate the legacy of those who have come before us and look with anticipation toward the future and the wonderful works that God can do through us.

Copies of the book are available in the church office for \$5.

- Pastor Drew

FINANCE

CONGREGATION PASSES BALANCED BUDGET FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR

The 2015 operating budget was approved during the annual congregational meeting on Jan. 25. The new annual financial outlook marks third year the Council of Elders has proposed a balanced budget. The church realized a near \$75,000 surplus in 2014.

Revenues and Support

Pledges	\$655,000
Other Giving	\$135,000
Preschool	\$147,700
Endowment	\$99,800
Fees and Other	\$1,000
Total Revenues and Support	\$1,038,500

Expenses

Personnel	\$630,950
Worship Ministry	\$16,550
Campus Ministry	\$18,900
Christian Education	\$28,700
Wednesday Night Live!	\$10,800
Community Engagement	\$61,000
Welcome	\$2,000
Communications	\$9,300
Stewardship	\$2,500
Administration	\$58,900
Building and Ground	\$198,900
Total Expenses	\$1,038,500

WOMEN OF PEOPLES CHURCH

DEBORAH CIRCLE

Meeting times vary. For more information, contact Rachell Pomerville at 517-580-4904.

DORCAS CIRCLE

Meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Dee Toth at 517-482-4414 or Susan Coopes at 517-339-0450.

REBEKAH/HANNAH CIRCLE

Meetings are the fourth Wednesday of each month at 12:30 or 1 p.m. For more information, contact Cindy Carson at 517-862-8896 or Gretchen Rosenbrook at 517-332-5132.

PHOEBE CIRCLE

Meetings are the fourth Wednesday January, April, September and November, at 9 a.m. For more information, contact Renate Carey at 517-324-0262 or Lois Huldin at 517-332-3160.

GENESIS IN 40 DAYS

2015 LENTEN JOURNEY THROUGH SCRIPTURE

READING CALENDAR

Feb. 18 – Gen. 1-2	Mar. 15 – Gen. 27
Feb. 19 – Gen. 3	Mar. 16 – Gen. 28
Feb. 20 – Gen. 4	Mar. 17 – Gen. 29
Feb. 21 – Gen. 5	Mar. 18 – Gen. 30
	Mar. 19 – Gen. 31
Feb. 22 – Gen. 6	Mar. 20 – Gen. 32
Feb. 23 – Gen. 7	Mar. 21 – Gen. 33
Feb. 24 – Gen. 8	
Feb. 25 – Gen. 9	Mar. 22 – Gen. 34
Feb. 26 – Gen. 10	Mar. 23 – Gen. 35
Feb. 27 – Gen. 11	Mar. 24 – Gen. 36
Feb. 28 – Gen. 12	Mar. 25 – Gen. 37
	Mar. 26 – Gen. 38
Mar. 1 – Gen. 13	Mar. 27 – Gen. 39
Mar. 2 – Gen. 14	Mar. 28 – Gen. 40
Mar. 3 – Gen. 15	
Mar. 4 – Gen. 16	Mar. 29 – Gen. 41
Mar. 5 – Gen. 17	Mar. 30 – Gen. 42
Mar. 6 – Gen. 18	Mar. 31 – Gen. 43
Mar. 7 – Gen. 19	Apr. 1 – Gen. 44
	Apr. 2 – Gen. 45
Mar. 8 – Gen. 20	Apr. 3 – Gen. 46 - 50
Mar. 9 – Gen. 21	Apr. 4 – No Reading
Mar. 10 – Gen. 22	
Mar. 11 – Gen. 23	Apr. 5 – Gen. 1-2
Mar. 12 – Gen. 24	
Mar. 13 – Gen. 25	
Mar. 14 – Gen. 26	

BE A PART OF THE DAILY CONVERSATION

@Connect2TPC #TPCgenesis

ThePeoplesChurch.com

LOCAL PARTNERSHIP CONTINUES TO EXPAND IN 2015

The Peoples Church outreach to Edgewood Village continues to expand! Since making the commitment to assist residents in this community, church vans have transported children, youth and senior citizens more than 1,000 miles, enabling them to attend Bible schools, visit and interact on college campuses and enjoy musical programs and other special community events.

Holiday gifts with an estimated value of \$2,000 were distributed in December to 65 youngsters; 10 church families provided complete Christmas dinners for 10 Edgewood families, meals that included meat, fresh fruits and vegetables.

Currently, 50 tutors assist students in after-school programs; four members read to young children in Head Start classrooms and four people serve as receptionists at the Edgewood office.

Opportunities to volunteer are increasing! If you are interested in our new 2015 projects contact one of our team leaders: **(1)** Health and Wellness Program for youth (Barbara Scott: 517-889-5603); **(2)** Preparing State and Federal Income Tax Returns (Pat Nash: P.O. Box 32, Haslett, MI 48840); **(3)** Gardening: (Loretta Johnson: 517-487-8931).

Located north of Lake Lansing Road between Abbot and Park Lake Roads, Edgewood Village is home to about 400 residents who are diverse in both ethnicity and reli-



Photo by **Loretta Johnston**

Church members deliver holiday meals to Edgewood Village.

gion. The "Tower" has 35 one bedroom apartments for seniors and physically impaired people; 135 townhouses complete the village housing.

-Maxine Ferris



caf theology

faith on campus @ lcc

MONDAYS | NOON | GB FOOD COURT

caf theology

faith on campus @ msu

TUESDAYS | 5:30 P.M. | AKERS DINING HALL

OUTREACH

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MINISTRY GIVES MORE THAN \$61,000 IN 2014

Offering its support locally, nationally and internationally, members of the Community Engagement Ministry offered financial assistance to more than 24 organizations on behalf of The Peoples Church in 2014.

Locally, it invested in the Edgewood Village Partnership (\$3,636), church camps (\$2,000), Congregations Helping Kids (\$355), the City Rescue Mission (\$5,000), the Greater Lansing Food Bank (\$6,000), holiday food baskets (almost \$4,000), Christian Services (\$2,000), Haven House, (\$750), Art for Charlie (\$500) and the Personal Needs Bank (almost \$1,500).

Nationally, it supported the Crop Walk (\$2,390), Re-Member (\$1,228) and Lutheran Social Services (\$1,000).

Internationally, it offered support to four denominational missionaries (\$12,200), The Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project (\$5,000), Doctors Without Borders (\$4,000), the Haiti Educational Nursing Support (\$3,500), mission work in Peru (\$2,950) and the Heifer Project (\$500).

CONNECT AND GROW

PEOPLES 101 | FEB. 1

Want to learn more about The Peoples Church? Peoples 101, our informal Q&A session, is hosted on the first Sunday each month in the Robertson Room following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. All are welcome.

BREAKING OPEN PARABLES

Jesus taught using parables and we have been discussing them for more than 2,000 years. On Feb. 4 and 11, Pastor Drew will continue his *Wednesday Night Live!* series on understanding and engaging parables. The class is offered at 6:30 p.m. in the Robertson Room. Come early to enjoy our weekly *WNL!* Community Meal, served at 5:30 p.m. in Snider Social Hall.

SECTARIANISM IN THE MIDDLE EAST | FEB. 26

All are welcome to be a part of the next "Great Decisions" discussion set for 4:30 p.m. on Feb. 26 in the Robertson Room. Join us as Dr. Russell Lucas, associate professor of Arabic studies in MSU's Department of Linguistics and Languages and director of Global Studies in the Arts and Humanities presents "Sectarianism in the Middle East." Developed by the Foreign Policy Association, "Great Decisions" is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. Eight topics are chosen each year as the most critical issues facing America. Study books are available in the Church Office for \$16 each and at the Feb. 26 program.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

5:30 P.M. COMMUNITY MEAL,
SNIDER SOCIAL HALL



FEB. 4 - PERUVIAN DINNER | *Aquadito de Pollo* (Chicken & Rice Soup), *Sarsa Salad* (Mixed Vegetables), *Lomo Saltado* (Beef & Potatoes), *De Frutas* (Fruit Salad), and *Pisco* (Fruit Punch).

FEB. 11 | Tomato Soup, Hamburgers and Hotdogs, Cole Slaw, Mixed Fruit, and Cookies.

FEB. 18 | Cream of Chicken Soup, Vegetable Soup, and Assorted Breads.

FEB. 18 | Baked Ziti, Mixed Greens Salad, Bread Sticks, Sliced Pears and Sherbert

EXPLORING OUR FAITH THROUGH
MOVIES AND CONVERSATIONS

SCREEN TIME



THE PEOPLES CHURCH 2015 MEN'S RETREAT

FEBRUARY 20-22

HOWELL NATURE CENTER

All men are invited to a weekend of manly fun, manly games, manly meals, manly movies, manly conversations and spiritual refreshment Feb. 20 - 22 during our annual Peoples Church Men's Retreat. This year's retreat is all about "Screen Time: Exploring our Faith through Movies and Conversations" and will take place at the Howell Nature Center. The retreat begins at 6:30 p.m. on Friday and ends Sunday morning with a chapel service. Cost is \$95; includes lodging and meals. To learn more, contact Aram Kabodian at 517-204-6440.

SERVE AND SHARE

ITEMS NEEDED FOR 2015 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Our Children's Christian education program is looking to collect 700 clean gallon milk jugs (not crushed, with lids), large coffee cans, Pringles containers, hot cocoa canisters, oatmeal canisters and soda pop cans in addition to gift cards for supplies to stores, such as Meijer, JoAnn Fabric, Walmart and Michael's for its 2015 summer VBS program. Contact Meaghan Gonzalas.

PERSONAL NEEDS BANK

Help stock the Personal Needs Bank. We collect bar soap, deodorant, sanitary pads, tampons, disposable diapers,

baby wipes, disposable razors, shaving cream, dish soap, facial tissue and paper towels. Donation baskets are located in the Main Sanctuary and at the Welcome Center in the Northwest Entrance.

BRIGHTEN SOMEONE'S DAY WITH FLOWERS

Each Sunday, the beautiful flowers that decorate our Sanctuary are shared with the home-bound members of our church and retirement center residents. This is a heart-warming ministry. If you would like to volunteer your time to help deliver flowers one Sunday, contact Irene Seahawk at 517-203-0308 or Shirley Noetzold at 517-339-0233.

YOUR COUNCIL OF ELDERS FOR 2015

The Council of Elders is the governing body of The Peoples Church. It is made up of 17 representatives elected from the active membership to serve three-year terms. It is responsible for the spiritual, financial, physical and overall welfare of the church and assists the pastors in administering the sacraments or ordinances.

The Council of Elders meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Robertson Room. All members of The Peoples Church community are welcome to attend; or contact the chair or another elder prior to a monthly meeting to be included as part of an evening's agenda. Meeting minutes are available at ThePeoplesChurch.com

MEMBER

Jim Kelly *2015
 Jane Crowner *2016
 David Ronk, Jr. *2016
 Thad Morgan *2015
 Lisa Allen-Kost *2016
 Paul Babbitt *2015
 Charles Blackman *2015
 Mimi Burpee *2017
 Alan Canady *2015
 Ron Dooley *2016
 Kathleen Hawkins *2017
 Aaron Kabodian *2015
 Calvin Kerr *2016
 Wallace Markham *2017
 Robin Matheson *2017
 Jan Reed *2017
 Barbara Scott *2016

POSITION(S) / APPOINTMENT(S)

Council Chairperson
 Council Secretary
 Church Treasurer, Finance Ministry Member
 Church Clerk
 Finance Ministry Chairperson
 Welcome Ministry Member
 Community Engagement Ministry Member
 Community Engagement Ministry Chairperson
 Campus Ministry Chairperson
 Finance Ministry Member
 Campus Ministry Member
 Christian Education Ministry Chairperson
 Building & Grounds Ministry Chairperson
 Worship Ministry Chairperson
 Welcome Ministry Co-Chairperson
 Building & Grounds Ministry Member
 Community Engagement Ministry Member

E-MAIL

jkelly517@gmail.com
 crowner@msu.edu
 c.ronk@comcast.net
 tmorgan@fraserlawfirm.com
 lisa.kost@cbre.com
 paulbabbitt47@gmail.com
 charlesblackman388@gmail.com
 mimburpee@gmail.com
 acanady2001@yahoo.com
 rdooley@centurionmp.com
 kjhawkins47@gmail.com
 ledzeppelin1990@sbcglobal.net
 scooter68@gmail.com
 wallace.marham@comcast.net
 matheso4@msu.edu
 reedjan7@gmail.com
 NONE

EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Rev. Andrew Pomerville	Senior Pastor	apomerville@thepeopleschurch.com
Rev. Drew Filkins	Associate Pastor	dfilkins@thepeopleschurch.com
Bill Terrill	Personnel Committee Chairperson	terrillw@msu.edu

This list reflects the Council of Elders membership for the session beginning Jan. 1, 2015.

*Notes each member's term-ending date as of Dec. 31.

2015 HEARTS ON FIRE CHILI COOK-OFF & EMPTY BOWLS FUNDRAISER



Members of the Greater Lansing Pottery Guild have generously donated some of their best bowls! Proceeds from the event will benefit those in need in our community.

We'll have a friendly tasting competition, complete with prizes and lots of fun to warm us all on a February afternoon! We are still looking for chili chefs, tasters and diners. The chili cook-off is an event not to be missed!

Sunday,
February 22
Snider Social Hall

Following the 10:30 a.m.
Worship Service

SIGN UP | *Return forms to Offertory Plate on Sunday or the Church Office during the week.*

COUNT ME IN FOR THE ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF!

YES! I will bring a pot of my favorite chili to share.

I can help set up (10 - 11:30 a.m.) I can help clean up (12:30 - 2 p.m.)

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____


I LOVE THE PEOPLES CHURCH

Be Amazed! 

The Peoples Church | Annual Campaign 2015

THANK YOU

to all who generously pledged your support to our 2015 Annual Campaign.


THE PEOPLES CHURCH
200 W. Grand River Ave.
East Lansing MI 4882
517.332.5073
ThePeoplesChurch.com
FEBRUARY 2015 PORTAL