

Rev. Case Van Kempen, Interim Senior Pastor Rev. Betsy Aho, Associate Pastor Rev. Drew Filkins, Associate Pastor

**MAY 2019** 

Monthly Newsletter of The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing, MI 48823 I 517.332.5073 I ThePeoplesChurch.com

## WHERE THERE'S LIFE, THERE'S CHANGE

Many of you know that I used to enjoy long distance running, until a medical issue (Transient Acantholytic Dermatosis, aka Grover's Disease), put an end to that. I used to get out at least four mornings a week, and usually five. My final marathon, which I ran with my son, Paul, was six years ago this month, on May 5, 2013.

What you almost certainly don't know is that I used to run the exact same route every day for my training runs. I wore a Garmin to measure my miles, so I could have run in any direction I wanted, but I chose to run the same three-mile loop every time I headed out the door. For my longest training run before a race, I ran it seven times.

Obviously, I'm not a person who needs a lot of change; I like things to stay the same. Leigh has always said that we need to be really careful where we put things in our house, because once I find a place for something, I like it to stay there.

But Leigh will also tell you that I'm not completely rigid when it comes to change. I know that change is inevitable. Take my job, for example; I've changed churches every year for 16 years! Medical issues can force us to make changes, as can getting older. Advances in technology can require change, too. I was just learning to program my VCR when DVD players showed up, and now I hear there's something called "streaming video?"

You've probably figured out where I'm headed with this: Calling a new pastor is going to bring change to The Peoples Church. He or she will have different ideas, different ways of doing things, different ways of leading. It won't feel the same as it did when Rev. Pomerville was here—but that was true when he replaced Rev. Johnson, and so on. As much as we might wish that worship—and everything else about our church—could just stay the same, the passage of time guarantees that it won't.

So, is there anything to be accomplished by digging in our heels against change? Let me put it this way: When Leigh and I moved to a new house shortly before that final marathon, I could have driven back to our old neighborhood and set out on my training runs from there. Or I could learn a new routine at our new home.

What would you have done?

Pastor Case

# READ EASY IN MEMORY OF MARGIE KINZLEY

To honor Margie Kinzley's legacy, The Reading People at The Peoples Church took up a collection and purchased five handheld magnifying glasses with illumination for distribution during services on Sunday, and for the Fishbach Library.

Margie was a very active and longtime member of the church. She was passionate about the written word and didn't let her deteriorating eyesight in her later years keep her from doing many of the things she loved. The hope is that these new lighted magnifiers will help others more easily read the bulletins, Bibles and library resources at The Peoples Church.

Five of the handheld devices, pictured below, will be available from ushers on Sunday mornings for use during the service and in the library following worship, if desired. A switch on one side of the device will turn the lights on and off so print will be both enlarged and illuminated. We provide large print pew bibles and large print worship bulletins (with the hymns in large print included) each week; the hope is that these devices will further help some with eyesight impairments.

#### **OPTICAL GRADE LENS**

distortion-free glass reduces eye strain



# BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

#### **MAY BIRTHDAYS**

\*80 & OVER

- 5/1 Luella Erbes
- 5/2 Douglas Pearson
- 5/5 Maxine Ferris
- 5/7 Cathleen Gardner
- 5/9 Albert Hafner
- 5/16 Trish Larson
- 5/16 Yvonne Hafner
- 5/17 Sandra Wegenke
- 5/18 Stewart SirLouis
- 5/21 Eleanor Stubbs
- 5/24 Otto Stockmeyer

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

# PORTAL DEADLINE

#### **PORTAL DEADLINE:**

The deadline for submissions to the June 2019 *Portal* is May 15. Submit content to Rachel Giddings at, rgiddings@thepeopleschurch.com.

The *Portal* is a monthly newsletter that is mailed each month to optin subscribers and also included in the Friday email.

#### **ThePeoplesChurch.com**

# JUNE 17 - 21, 2019 WOLDUMAR NATURE CENTER

Blast off with the first VBS to land on Mars! To Mars and Beyond will help kids discover the wonders of God's universe. They'll become Voyagers on a journey through space, exploring where God's power can take them. They'll lift off to distant planets on special missions and along the way, they'll learn how God walked with heroes of the Bible, and that God is always with them, too. It will be an out-of-this-world, fun learning experience! Register online at <a href="mailto:ThePeoplesChurch.com">ThePeoplesChurch.com</a>. Contact Ann Harvey, Children's Education Director at <a href="mailto:aharvey@the-peopleschurch.com">aharvey@the-peopleschurch.com</a> with any questions.

## "PAINTING OUTSIDE THE LINES"

"Painting Outside the Lines" – A new exhibit by renowned watercolorist Maxine Holland, is now on display throughout the halls bordering the Sanctuary and in the Thomsen case across from the Library. The exhibit includes 22 pieces that are representative of Maxine's collection of landscapes, lakescapes and flowers of the Midwest; it will be on display through July 18, 2019.

Maxine has exhibited in galleries throughout Michigan, Illinois and Florida and her work is part of the permanent collections of the University of Michigan, Western Michigan University and West Shore Community College. "Painting Outside the Lines" was curated by Sue Patterson and installed by mem-



bers of the Fine Arts Committee. Pick up a catalog for the exhibit in the NW entrance of the church. Select pieces from the exhibit are for sale; contact the church office for information on pricing.



## **SUMMER CAMP: ENROLLING NOW!**

by Dana Johnson, Director, Peoples Church Preschool

Summer is almost here and if you haven't already, it's time to sign up for Peoples Church Summer Camp! There are two camps available: Junior Camp is for students who have completed kindergarten, first grade or second grade. Senior camp is for students who have complet-

ed third, fourth, fifth or sixth grade.

Campers can enroll for one day or 10 weeks, but reserve your days early to be sure there is still space available. Camp opens at 7:10 a.m. and ends at 5:45 p.m.; however, students may arrive and leave with their parents at any time.

This summer all campers will enjoy:

- Cooking with Ms. Gerri
- Weekly field trips and/or Special Visitors
- Lego/Robot engineering instruction
- Binder Park Zoo and Nature Centers
- Keeping up with school work without realizing it
- Summer End Talent Show
- East Lansing Aquatic Center

Did you see how we snuck that 5th item in there? Also this year, students may enroll in on-site professional soccer instruction! For more information, call Dana Johnson at 517.332.2885 or visit <a href="mailto:ThePeoplesChurch.com">ThePeoplesChurch.com</a> website, where you will find a Summer Camp application, Parent Fees Agreement, Reservation Schedule, Family Questionnaire and a Curriculum page.







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

#### MAY 5

#### **GREATER LANSING VISITORS BUREAU**

"Opportunities in Greater Lansing"

#### **MAY 12**

#### **GIL WANGER**

Michigan's Death Penalty

MAY 19 (last Forum until Fall)

#### **COUNCIL OF ELDERS**

Updates & Projections for 2019-2020

#### **MAY 26**

**NO FORUM - MEMORIAL DAY** 

May 19 will be the last Peoples Forum before taking a break for the Summer. The Peoples Forum will return in Fall 2019.

# MUSIC Sunday

MAY 5, 2019 • 10:30 a.m.

Requiem by W.A. Mozart

Join us Sunday, May 5, during the 10:30 a.m. service for Music Sunday as the Sanctuary Choir performs W.A. Mozart's *Requiem*. Enjoy this major work full of sounds with instruments such as strings, winds, organ and timpani.

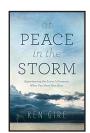


### **READING NOOK**

SPONSORED BY THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

#### AT PEACE IN THE STORM

Experiencing the Savior's
Presence When You Need Him Most
by Ken Gire



The author, Ken Gire, a graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary, has written many bestselling books and received many notable honors for his works. He weaves togeth-

er stories from the Bible, history, and his experiences to reveal how we can find strength and encouragement through the storms of life. Know the God who is always there to reach out and support.

In this book he says, "Here's the rub about faith. Sure prayer often changes outward things, but the only guaranteed miracle God offers us is inner peace, the peace of Christ. A peace so deep that it cannot be analyzed or understood. It descends on us even when everything else is falling apart, while the drug-addicted child does not come to his/her senses, or the job offer doesn't pan out, or the cancer rages, or the marriage is a hollow mess."

This miracle of the "inner variety," this inexplicable and supernatural calm in the storm, is the greatest miracle you'll ever experience.

# ASL Interpreted Service

The Peoples Church is pleased to provide American Sign Language interpretation at 10:30 a.m. worship every Sunday and at some special events throughout the year.





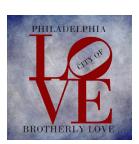
# SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY & MISSION TRIP DETAILS

**ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!** It's that time of year once more to recognize our graduating high school seniors. **May 19** is Senior Recognition Sunday! During the 10:30 a.m. worship service, high school seniors will be recognized in front of the congregation for their hard work and accomplishments.

If you are interested in being recognized in front of the congregation on May 19, please email Joe Kennedy, PCYG Director, at <a href="mailto:jkennedy@thepeopleschurch.com">jkennedy@thepeopleschurch.com</a>. Be sure to include in the email what high school you currently attend and what your future holds (College, Trade School, Work Force etc.). Senior recognition Sunday is also the last High School PCYG until fall.

#### MISSION TRIP: July 13 - 19

PCYG is headed to the city of brotherly love—Philadelphia—for this year's high school mission trip! We will be learning about urban farming and working alongside Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Philadelphia. Students will witness the realities of urban poverty and learn what they can do to make a change.



Space is limited. Email Joe Kennedy at <a href="mailto:jkennedy@thepeopleschurch.com">jkennedy@thepeopleschurch.com</a> to sign up!

# **TEAL FOR SURVIVORS**

Pastor Betsy was honored to offer the blessing at the dedication of the teal prayer flag installation that appeared in downtown East Lansing throughout April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. She was joined by community members, city leaders, MSU staff, parents of survivors, and survivors who spoke of the importance of the project.

The flags were created by members of Parents of Sister Survivors Engage (POS-SE) and there was one flag to represent each of the 505 known survivors of Larry Nassar's sexual assault. At least 4,000 MSU students contributed to the project by writing messages of support on the flags.



#### CONNECT | GROW | SERVE | SHARE

#### WPC STRAWBERRY BREAKFAST

The Women of Peoples Church will host their annual Strawberry Breakfast on May 4, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in the Snider Social Hall. A full breakfast will be served and will include strawberry shortcake! Pastor Case will present on our continuing theme of "Kindness." Tickets are \$8 for an individual or \$40 for a table of eight. Contact Lori Barbieri at ljbarbieri@comcast.net with questions or to purchase tickets.

#### **WPC ANNUAL JEWELRY SALE**

The Women of Peoples Church annual jewelry sale will be held the weekend of **May 18-19, 2019**. Be ready to shop; there will be lots to choose from!

#### LIBRARY COMMITTEE USED BOOK SALE

The Library Committee Used Book Sale will be held in conjunction with the WPC annual jewelry sale, **May 18-19, 2019**. Come browse all of the book titles and pick out a few new books to read and enjoy!

#### THE READING PEOPLE

The Reading People will meet on **Thursday, May 16** for a discussion on the book, "Educated," by Tara Westover. Join us from 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Robertson Room; everyone is welcome to attend!

#### **DEBORAH CIRCLE**

Deborah Circle will meet on **Wednesday, May 8** from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in the Centennial Room. Everyone is welcome to join us! Contact Jess Eysselinck at 646.244.2102 or jess@eysselinck.com for more information.

#### **DORCAS CIRCLE**

Dorcas Circle will meet on **Tuesday, May 21** at 6:00 p.m. in the Robertson Room for their annual potluck and silent auction. Please bring a dish to pass and an item for the silent auction. All are welcome. For more information, call Phyllis Gaulden at 517.482.0930.

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Back in September, seven students started a journey to explore their faith as part of the 2019 Confirmation Class. They laughed and cried together as they explored the Christian faith through scripture, conversation, silly games and funny jokes. I could not be prouder of these young people. Well done, my friends. ~ Pastor Drew



From L to R: Kirill Spink, Holden Knapp, Ben Novello, John Laxton, Naomi Sowa, Jesalyn Henry and Elsie Paris

### PEOPLES 101

Peoples 101 is a 30-minute informal discussion about The Peoples Church. Bring your questions and meet with a Pastor and Welcome Ministry Members in the Robertson Room. New Members Classes take place in the Centennial Room and last roughly an hour and a half. Child care is provided. This meeting explores the history, governance, mission and values of the church as well as programming and volunteer opportunities. Membership is also discussed, but there is never any obligation to join. For more information, call Diane Shafer at 517.388.0437 or email at dmshafer2001@gmail.com. You can also call Robin Matheson at 517,290,3223 or email at matheso4@msu.edu.

#### **SCHEDULE:**

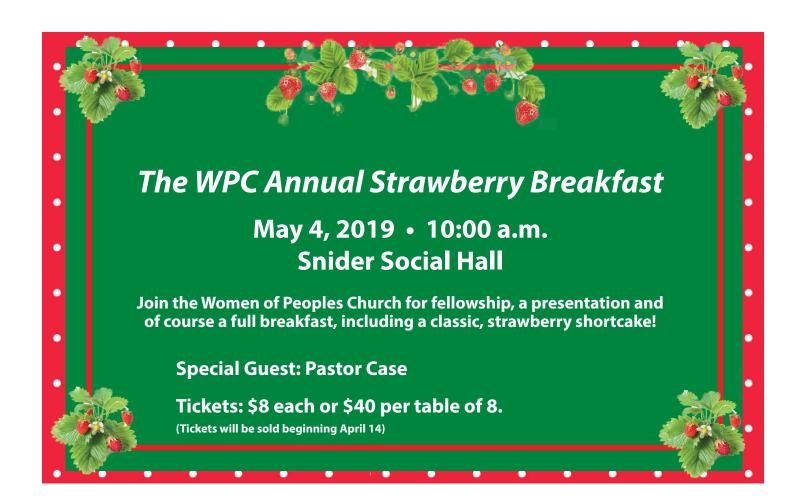
MAY 5 Peoples 101

# YOGA ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Even though Wednesday Night Live! will be taking a summer break, the yoga class will continue!

Join us each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Robertson Room for yoga.





# MEN'S BREAKFAST

May 11, 2019 8:00 a.m. Snider Social Hall

Join men of TPC in fellowship for our Men's breakfast on **May 11** at 8:00 a.m.! This breakfast meeting will combine good food, fellowship, laughter, and stories with worship and scripture. Whether you are a visitor or a long-time member, this is a great way for us as Christian brothers to get to know one another better. Invite your friends and neighbors to this informal gathering. Let us know you are coming by signing up at the Welcome Desk, or by calling the church office. We look forward to seeing you at the breakfast!



### **WNL!** PROGRAMMING

The WNL! community meal takes place in the Snider Social Hall downstairs. Join us!

You thought field trips were only for middle school students. Well, not anymore! Over the next few weeks, the adult class will be exploring other faith spaces. We will be learning about their space, traditions, and practices. You are welcome to ride the shuttle or drive yourself. See the schedule of where we will be visiting below. Join us for this exciting series!

WNL! will be taking a Summer break; the last WNL! programming will be on May 15 and will return in Fall 2019. Please note: the Wednesday evening yoga class will continue at 6:30 p.m. in the Robertson Room all summer.

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE! SCHEDULE

5:30 pm - Dinner

6:00 pm - Youth Choir (Youth Den)

6:30 pm - Adult Programming (Robertson Room)

Middle School Youth Group (Youth Den)

Yoga (Yellow Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)

# Wednesday Night Live! goes on a



#### **Visiting Faith Spaces**

April 24 ~ Christian Science Reading Room May 1 ~ Islamic Center of East Lansing May 8 ~ Bharatiya Hindu Temple May 15 ~ Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

Dinner 5:30 pm at The Peoples Church. Shuttle to Faith Spaces at 6:15 pm and will return to the church by 7:30.



# JEWELRY & USED BOOK SALE MAY 18-19, 2019

HOURS: SATURDAY 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. SUNDAY 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Presented by: The Women of Peoples Church & The Peoples Church Fishbach Library Committee



MAY 2019 PORTAL

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