



**PORTAGE
LAKE
UNITED
CHURCH**

PLUC

**United Church of Christ & Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
1400 E. Houghton Avenue, Houghton, MI 49931-1208
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September 2019

What's Happening @ PLUC

*Winter Worship Hours
Begin September 1
Sunday School/Adult Study 10:00 AM
Worship 11:00 AM
Coffee 12:00PM*



Consistory Highlights

Submitted by Terry Monson, Clerk

Angel Mission: The building that houses the Mission has sold and it will need to relocate.
Office Manager: Helping Hands distributed funds for ten food requests and one gas request since the June Consistory meeting. The congregation book was updated. It includes names of all members (641) since the church was founded and records new members, births, deaths, baptisms, and elders. The Consistory approved vacation days on September 23-24 and October 10.
Treasurer: The checking account balance at the end of July was \$23,963, of which the General Fund balance was \$5,836 and the designated fund (lounge, memorial fund, flood relief, etc.) balance was \$18,627. The Helping Hands balance was \$888. At the end of July, total

General Fund income (pledges, extra pledges and contributions, loose plate, etc.) was \$59,097 or 62% of the yearly budget. General Fund expenses (\$69,014) were also 62% of the yearly budget (\$110,434).

Financial Secretary: Income at the end of July as percentages of the yearly budget represented 62% for pledges, 100% for unpledged, 59% for loose plate, and 64% for building use. These percentages are running above the pro-rated yearly budget of 58% (=7months/12 months). Per capita payments were \$690.

Building and Grounds: An insurance check for \$2,015 was received to compensate for damages caused from the July rainstorm. The Consistory expressed its gratitude for the quick response by the groups using the building to catch the leaking water and the building committee as it addressed the roof/window issues. The Consistory asked the Committee to get estimates of costs and timelines for upcoming capital improvements (roof leak, furnace replacement).

Changed worship time: After a brief and fruitful discussion, a consensus emerged to change to Sunday School and Worship times beginning Sunday, September 1, 2019 to 10 am for Sunday School and 11 am for Worship. The Sunday School will meet for approximately 45 minutes, ending time to transition to worship.

Revitalization: The Consistory established an ad hoc committee to lead the congregation in an ongoing revitalization process. Members include Pastor Norland, Elders Will and Lydia Lytle,

with additional congregation members invited to join.

Presbytery Commissioner: The Consistory appointed Jan Medlin as Presbytery Commissioner for the upcoming Mackinac Presbytery meeting at Presbytery Point. Elder Will Lytle will be a general attendee.

Fall Congregation Meeting: The Fall Meeting of the Congregation/Corporation will be November 3.

Financial Report

Information received from Financial Secretary

Received in July

Pledge	\$4,972.40
Unpledged	350.00
Loose Plate	116.00

Other News

Church Picnic

..submitted by Bobbie Dalquist

The church picnic happened on Sunday, August 25. Perfect weather, good food and great company. Now we look forward to and plan for Fall activities. Please mark November 2 on your calendar. That's the date of Fellowship Guild's Holiday Decorations Rummage Sale. If you have holiday ornaments (any holiday) to donate, bring them to the church the week before the sale.

Almost.....Almost.....But not quite!

Submitted by Liz Evensen

Although many of our members and friends might have thought the Lounge project was done, the committee still wanted to add a few finishing touches. Last summer, the Lounge committee, along with all our church members and friends, were diverted into dealing with the aftermath of

the Father's Day Flood. It took a lot of our energy trying to help those afflicted by that disaster. Fast forward to Summer 2019; decisions have come easier this year and we can now say we are wrapping up the Lounge project! Let me tell you what has been happening: 1) Water fountain removed. 2) LED lights installed in the lounge area. 3) Painted the alcoves and 4) Bookcase installed in the water fountain area. These changes make a difference and we hope you like the 'new' look!

The end is in sight! We have one more surprise and we will introduce it in September! We can hardly wait to show you! Don't miss a Sunday; but even if you do, it will be there for you to enjoy, someday!

A special thanks to committee members Lois Jambekar, Lou Ellyn Helman, Liz Evensen and Jerry MacInnes, financial manager. The church lounge idea was introduced at a Fellowship Guild meeting in 2017. These gals volunteered to bring our church lounge into the 21st century and, assisted by an anonymous donation, we were on our way! They saw this project through to completion....what a team! We hope our church members and friends will use and enjoy our 'newly refreshed' lounge!

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Portage Lake United Church

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Website: www.pluc.org

Pastor: Rev. Peter Norland

Office Manager: Beth Smock

General Office Hours:

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM – Mon.- Tues, Thurs-Fri

Pastor Office Hours:

9:30 AM - 12:00 Noon or by appointment

**Portage Lake United Church
1400 E. Houghton Ave.
Houghton, MI 49931**

Return Service Requested

<p>Just in Time For School</p>

Teacher: Why are you late, Frank?

FRANK: Because of the sign.

Teacher: What sign?

FRANK: The one that says, 'School Ahead, Go Slow.'

The Chase

Nicola, eight years old, told her parents that David Parsons had kissed her after lessons. 'How did that happen?' asked her mother.' It wasn't easy, 'admitted the young lady, 'but three girls helped me catch him.'

Teacher: Glenn, how do you spell ' crocodile?' GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L' Teacher:
No, that's wrong

GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

Hope everyone had a great summer!!