LAKESHORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE OPEN DOOR

May 2025

"Behold, I have set before thee an open door..." Revelations 3:8

Editor: Susan Dykstra



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY SUNDAY 10AM -OR-ACCESS THE LIVESTREAM OF SUNDAY'S WORSHIP <u>https://meet.google.com/rik-bqqf-rye</u> phone call: 1-929-282-0976 and at the prompt enter: 574 737 948#.



9am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Service 11am Fellowship 2pm Lake Huron Woods Worship Lakeshore Presbyterian Church 5235 Lakeshore Rd Fort Gratiot, MI 48059

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Pastor Roxie and I only reluctantly agreed to take care of Precious the cat for a week while her owners took a road trip. We had cared for our kids' dogs for extended periods, but never a cat. We agreed to give Precious the cat a short term home. We provided her with food, water, a litter box and a welcoming home. Before long Precious was jumping into our laps as we read in our comfortable soft chairs. Of course we began to pet her soft clean fur coat. She responded with, "Prrrrrrrrrrrr." I think her "Prrrrrrrrrrr" was telling us that she loved us. Before too long she would jump onto our bed as we were preparing for a good night's rest. Precious was not satisfied with sleeping at the foot of the bed. Rather she would cozy up to our faces. We responded by petting her soft clean furry coat. Her response was "Prrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr"." How pleasant it is to fall asleep to the sound of "Prrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr". We were at first hesitant to open our home and our hearts to Precious. When her owners asked if we could take Precious for an indefinite period, we jumped at the chance. Now we wouldn't let anything pry her away from us. She loves us and we love her. We are one family.

Visitors to Lakeshore are often hesitant at first to walk through the doors of a church they haven't visited. Just as we were hesitant to take Precious into our home, visitors are usually hesitant to walk through the doors of a new church building. We have to be as welcoming to first time visitors as Pastor Roxie and I were to Precious; Please make a special effort to greet visitors as we shake hands and pass the peace of Christ following the sermon. Please think visitors before thinking friends when passing the peace of Christ. When we move into the time of fellowship with refreshments after worship, if you are in a position to do so, please look to sit with a person or a couple you have not seen in worship before. Our rule is that no one sits alone during the time of fellowship.

On Easter Sunday we were blessed with visitors! Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." (Matthew 10: 40) I am proud of the way Lakeshore welcomed our visitors! I called our visitors the following week. One said, "I felt an amazing love in the church from everyone. I will definitely be back." I believe that we always try to share the love that Jesus shared with us through the crucifixion and resurrection with our neighbors. When our love is received, it is like the prrrrrrrr of a cat. Our love has been received and returned.

Here are a couple of questions about cats: Why do cats like to lie on computers? To keep an eye on the mouse. What's a cat's favorite color? Purrrrple. Page 3





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May 1 –1pm Deacons May 7–2pm Stewardship May 8th 12:30pm Worship May 8th–1:30pm Session May 8th – 3pm Christ. Ed.





Sunday May 18th After Worship To review and vote on the updated by-laws for the corporation.

Community Corner



Pearl Manasseh

St. Clair County Sheriff'... ··· ×

St. Clair County Sheriff's deputies have taken multiple calls in recent days regarding a phone scam that is making its way around the community. Victims have reported receiving a call from a "loved one" that has been in a car accident. Another person then gets on the phone and continues the story line, eventually leading to needing money from the victim. The most disturbing part of this is that it appears that the scammers are using AI to generate a voice that sounds similar to the loved ones, making the scam more believable.

Please be cautious when answering the phone to unknown callers. If you believe you have been a victim of a scam, call 810-985-8115.



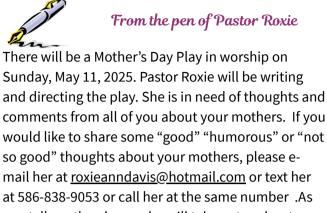
Our Father

I'm part of group tht's doing a book study on "Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools" by Tyler Staton. I've only read the first 3 chapters and they've been fascinating and encouraging as they help us to better understand Who God is, and who we are in relation to Him. With reading this during the Easter season, I've been considering so many different aspects to this, hoping to learn as much as possible from it. God is our Holy, omni-everything, perfect, living Abba/Daddy/Father, creator of this magnificent universe, and we are His mortal and imperfect children. He truly knows each one of us by name while calling us His 'Beloved' even though He knows us completely, even down to the numbers of hairs, or lack thereof, on our heads. He always has time for each one of us and responds in some fashion every time we call out to Him. Even after we've ignored Him for any length of time, or spent as little time as possible with Him, He will always respond in the best way for us. Like every good Father who truly loves His children, He will also reprimand us when we repeatedly ignore His warnings and promptings, and will guide us back on the path that's best for us if we let Hm, or when He sees a problem ahead and tries to steer us clear of it. And no, not everything feels like it is in our best interests. Our Heavenly Father loves us so much, He doesn't demand our perfect loyalty and respect. He gives us free will in order that we can choose to love Him, and others, or not. And because this isn't Heaven, we live with the consequences of everyone's imperfections and choices, including our own. I like another aspect the author points out: "I easily forget the sacredness of the people

Community Corner

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Church Choir



at 586-838-9053 or call her at the same number .As you talk on the phone, she will take notes about what you say. Or type out your thoughts and give them to her on Sunday May 4th. Your name will probably not be associated with your comments.

Pastor Roxie needs all your comments by Sunday, May 4th so she can put the drama together. The drama will reflect about some of the mothers in the Bible and our own mothers. A time of remembrance and thanks.

If you would like to be in the Mother's Day Play (children or adults), please let Pastor Roxie know by May 4th. The rehearsal will be on Saturday, May 10th at 10:00 a.m. and then at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday morning, May 11th. If you can only come to one rehearsal, that is fine. Pastor Roxie looks forward to hearing from you.



Continued from page 4

I encounter in my everyday routine, treating them as extras in the background of a feature film in which I play the lead. My wife and children, the coworkers in my office, the people I meet with, the people I briskly rush past". . . "all of them, extras. When Our trust in God is fractured, so is our intimacy with one another." What we experience in this world isn't always in our individual best interest, but maybe better for all, or others involved. When we don't trust God for all He promises us in His Holy, Living and unerring Book, and what He speaks into our hearts when we're truly listening to Him, it effects all our relationships. We try to make others compensate for what we think God should be doing for us now.



If you like to sing and would like to join the church choir, please see Phil Larson



Prayer Group Every Thursday beginning at 10am we pray for those who need our prayers the most. We collect our prayers on Sunday worship. Please join us Thursday. We always serve light refreshments

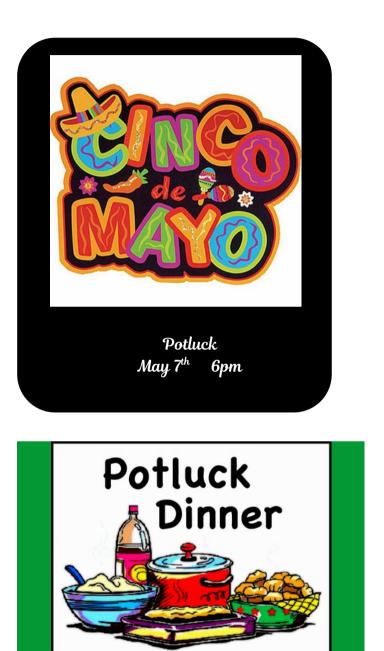
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May Events





May 14th 6pm





March 11th After Worship



May 17th 1–3pm





Easter Egg Hunt Photos 2025





Cathy Truchan and Eryn Matthews

Photos of Palm Sunday Service







Easter Service Photos







