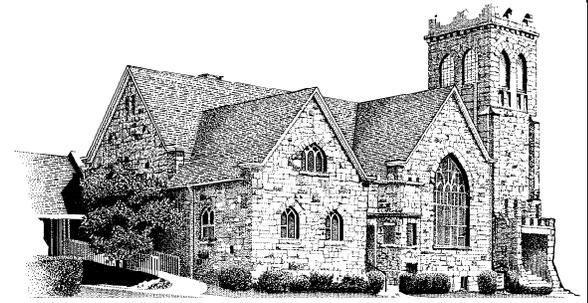


Mason First Presbyterian Church

The
CORNERSTONE



You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone. Ephesians 2:19-20

May 2019

Mortgage Progress!

We've been making some significant headway on paying off our mortgage from our recent renovation. As you may recall, we had borrowed \$900,000. As of May 1 our remaining principal is \$324,171.22 – so we have paid off nearly two thirds of the loan already, thanks to your generous gifts. *Hallelujah!*

The news gets better. With our regular monthly payments of \$5,231.67, we have only 71 payments left. Our last payment is scheduled for March 2025. That means we are on track to pay off our 20-year mortgage in about half the time – and save a massive amount of interest, too. *Hallelujah!*

The news gets even better. Sheren recently reviewed all the pledges that you made towards our second capital campaign (the current one, running from 2018 to 2020). So far we have collected \$301,768 of the \$562,941 that was pledged, leaving \$261,173 outstanding. We don't realistically expect to receive all of that (due to some deaths, changed personal circumstances in some cases, some unreliable pledges, etc.), but Sheren estimates that at least \$196,000 of that is reliable. If we subtract that amount from our remaining principal, and factor in the \$19,808 interest that we are expecting to pay between now and the end of 2020, that will leave a balance of only about \$148,000 remaining to be paid (plus another \$8,000ish interest) after 2021 begins. Basically that means two things:

(1) we will be ahead of our payment plan by many months, and

(2) we will only have about 16% of the mortgage left to pay off. That might be even less if we receive some additional unexpected income, or if some pledges are fulfilled early, or some of those questionable pledges come through. So – if you followed all that – *hallelujah!*

All of that to say: we're making *great* progress – *thank you* for your abundant generosity – and *keep those pledges coming in!*

Blessings!

Bill

Hallelujah!

Finance

Financial Report through April 2019

General Fund Balance (1/1/19)	\$ 0
Income through April	103,708.838
Expenses through April	96,261.10
Ending Balance (4/30/19)	\$ 7,447.73

General Fund Balance 4/30/19	\$ 7,447.73
Revolving Accounts Balance	171,308.50
Investments (end of 1st quarter 2019)	454,512.31
Net Financial Position (4/30/19)	\$633,268.54

Anticipated Pledged Giving through April	\$80,572
Pledged Giving Received through April	\$88,623

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE	
from Monday, April 29	
TOTAL MORTGAGE	\$ 900,000.00
MONTHLY MORTGAGE PAYMENT	\$ 5,231.67
REMAINING PRINCIPAL	\$ 324,171.22
INTEREST PAID FOR APRIL	\$ 1,127.67
TOTAL INTEREST PAID TO DATE	\$ 47,582.57
PAYMENTS REMAINING	70
PLEDGED TO DATE (2018-2020)	\$ 562,941.00
RECEIVED TO DATE	\$ 301,408.00

65% of 2019 Per Capita Has Been Received

The First Presbyterian Church of Mason is assessed **\$32.30 per member** for 2019. Our total obligation for 2019 is **\$4,508.90** and that amount was paid in January.

We are deducting per capita payments from pledges and offerings if it wasn't indicated that a separate check would be sent.

An Opportunity to Support Our Students

Scholarship applications have been submitted by eight students worthy of our support. Please consider donating to the Scholarship Fund, now!

Demonstrate your support of them. All have contributed to Mason First Presbyterian Church activities and represent us well!

Thank you!

The Scholarship Commission

Session Synopsis

APRIL

Pastor Bill reported the results of a meeting with the author of an open letter with concerns for the new security measures. The author remains with strong convictions to his personal theology that is in conflict with church security policy. Prayers and discernment continue.

Pastor Bill also provided an update on the recovery of Pastor Emeritus Charlie Herrick's eye injury. After some time for healing and repair, Charlie's prognosis for full recovery of the eye is good.

The Administration Committee is attempting to address public sidewalk trip hazards with the City.

The Worship & Music Committee will be placing new outdoor signage beginning Holy Week for direction to the proper entrances. The lighted sign will also be updated for activities.

The Finance Committee reported a General Fund deficit of -\$3,199 at the end of March with winter utility expenses being a predominant factor. The Capital Improvement Fund status allowed for further advance mortgage loan payments and new lower monthly installments. Maintaining the previous installment payments will continue expedite payment of the mortgage.

The Mission Committee has re-designated the Session Directed Mission budget line item to be Mission Outreach Funds. A collection box for the ongoing collection of hygiene kit items will be placed in the Memorial Room Closet. The Wednesday, May 8th dinner will be a chicken dinner fundraiser to support RE-MEMBER to be delivered by the summer adult mission trip team.

The Nominating Committee is seeking nominees for Session to consider for appointment to 2 open positions on the Personnel Committee.

Session approved the recommendation of the Member & Outreach Subcommittee and the Parish Life Committee to transfer a once Active member to the Associate Member Roll since the member relocated to western Michigan. More such transfers are forthcoming.

The Spiritual Growth Committee reported 5 youth have committed to this summer's Presbyterian Youth Triennium. The committee is coordinating child care for parents desiring to attend the area plays being promoted in the church. Looking forward to May, a Security Team may be appointed to further implement the new Security Policy.

Clerk of Session
Bruce F Archer

MARCH

Session continues discussion of the newly implemented security measures based on feedback from the congregation. The Security Policy is a living document subject to change at any time by action of the Session.

Pastor Bill and Spiritual Growth Director Lori have initiated a Confirmation Class of 5 students for church membership hopefully this spring.

Session approved the recommendations to appoint Linda Boster as a member of the Scholarship Commission and Kate Barber as a member of the Memorial Committee Class of 2022.

The General Fund experienced a \$7,620 surplus balance at the end of February with an all accounts balance of \$265,176 and total financial assets of \$701,553 with a \$432,024 loan balance.

Parish Life

Birthdays in May

Debbie Markiewicz	5/01
Barb VanDyke	5/03
Isabel Filka Hughson	5/04
Adam Cruickshank	5/04
Camille Subject	5/06
Mary Ozee	5/06
Kathleen Mihlbach	5/07
Lyle Brockman	5/09
Judy Caswell	5/11
Nancy Whyte	5/16
Lori Filka	5/17
Leah Harkness	5/21
Mary Schrock	5/26
Mary Jeanette Smith	5/27
Sam Pinches	5/27
Kelly Trout	5/28
Diane DeVoe	5/28
Ruby Simons	5/29

*A heartfelt thank you to my wonderful church family for the calls, cards, meals and good wishes following my recent surgery. It is truly a blessing to be a part of such a caring community.
Sincerely, Sandy Diehl*



Relay for Life will be held at Corrigan Oil Speedway June 14th at 6PM to June 15th at noon. The Survivor's Dinner starts at 5:15. Luminarias will be for sale on May 12th and 19th and on June 2nd and 9th following worship. Darrell's will again be hosting a steak dinner to benefit Relay on June 7th from 4:30 to 7:00. See Bill Friend, Kelly Trout or Gladys Welker for more information.

Please remember the following in your prayers

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| The family and friends of | Zach Krisiak | Allene Kussin |
| Bob Allen | Lynn Grove | Michael Okones |
| Chris Carlson | Trina Hancock | Rebecca Purcell |
| Chloë Chatfield | Charlie Herrick | Carol Quinn |
| David Dunham | Bill Hujsak | Carolyn Sexton |
| Ray Elton | Brian Hunt | Kelsie Walters |
| Erin Fallucca | Keith Kline | Allison Weaver |
| | | Sue Wright |

Deacons' Corner

Spring has sprung! Please keep the Coats for Kids event in mind. Stores have marked prices way down on winter gear. As a reminder, they need coats, hats, scarves, mittens, snow pants and snow boots.

As always, please continue to spread your faith by checking in with friends and neighbors. Make an extra serving or two of dinner and share while visiting those who may be in need of the connection.

BE The Gospel in Action!



The Stone Church Concert Series Presents
Mary and Tom singing familiar favorites and original music
in the Folk/Singer/Songwriter style
Bryan Guarnuccio returning to thrill us with his magical flute
Hrant Bagrazyan sharing his musical virtuosity
May 19, 2019 at 3:00PM in our Sanctuary

Find the latest, up-to-date church calendar at masonpresbyterian.org

WORSHIP AT
MASON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday morning: Worship begins at 10:00 followed by a fellowship hour. Sunday School for all ages - September through May.
Noon every Wednesday: A 20-minute meditative prayer service.

Bulletin Submissions are due by noon every Wednesday. Submissions for *The Cornerstone* are due: Noon on the 15th day of every month. Please be prompt. Late submissions may not be honored.

The
CORNERSTONE

Mason First Presbyterian Church
MINISTERS - All Members
PASTOR - Rev. Bill Pinches
PARISH ASSOCIATE - Rev. Dr. Fred Graham
PASTOR EMERITUS - Rev. Charlie Herrick
OFFICE MANAGER - Sheren Wright
SPIRITUAL GROWTH DIRECTOR - Lori Filka
YOUTH FELLOWSHIP LEADER - Lori Filka
ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH COORDINATOR
Michelle Mackey
SANCTUARY CHOIR DIRECTOR - Deb Melse
ORGANIST, BELL CHOIR and CHILDREN'S CHOIR
DIRECTOR - Darlene Ross
CHOIR ACCOMPANIST - Hrant Bagrazyan

ELDERS:

2019 - Travis Archer, Jenny Bond, Linda Boster, Lucinda Davenport.
2020 - Jason Blonshine, Debbie Markiewicz, Mary Ozee, Steve Sowles.
2021 - Doreen Chapman, Ginnie Gibson, Rod Guy, Tonya Seely.
Clerk: Bruce Archer

DEACONS:

2019 - Bill Friend, Linda Myall, Linda Peterson, Marla St. George.
2020 - Diane DeVoe, Sandy Diehl, Kathy Oesterle, Debbie Shellenbarger
2021 - Ann Butler, Laurie McGonigal, Colin Pinches, Chuck Shaub, Peg Shaub



First Presbyterian Church
131 E. Maple Street
Mason, Michigan 48854-1655
517.676.9333

Celebrating 160 Years
of Ministry and Service in Mason
1859 - 2019