

THE MESSENGER

Session News for the Pews

APRIL 2022

Member Survey-2 Annual Meeting
Summary-2 Operating Budget 2022-
3 March Session Notes-3 The Renee
Dabbs Bible-4

Word-Share-Prayer: Proverbs 3:4-5

"So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and of people. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight."

Member Surveys were mailed out .
Please fill out the survey and
return it by May 1st.

Renee Roederer Joining First Presbyterian as Continuous Pulpit Supply

We have been blessed over the past 9 months with a rich diversity of ministers that have filled our pulpit to lead worship. They have shared unique voices, theological perspectives and diverse experiences. The Worship Committee is pleased to announce that beginning April 3rd, Rev. Renee Roederer will be our consistent Pulpit Supply minister during this time of transition. Rev. Roederer is no stranger to our congregation having filled our pulpit many times in the past. She recently has completed an extended pulpit supply with Covenant Presbyterian Church in Southfield. You can learn more about Rev. Roederer on our website.

Rev. Roederer's sole task will be to lead the congregation in worship on Sundays and during Holy Week. The Deacons will continue to provide pastoral care, Rev. Budge Gere will continue to moderate Session, and we as a congregation will continue to lift up and live into the ministries of this church. Thanks be to God!

A New Instrument for First Presbyterian

Recently our sanctuary piano has developed some mechanical issues which are not fixable. In evaluating replacement options, a digital piano has been determined to best fit the current and future needs for musical expression. Session has approved the purchase of a new piano for the sanctuary using the Cook Mission/Youth/Music Memorial Fund.



The Clavinova Digital Piano

We are purchasing a new CLP-795GP Yamaha Clavinova digital grand piano and bench from King's Keyboard House in Ann Arbor. The piano is electronic so tuning is not required. The keyboard has transposing capabilities, different sounds including an organ, and can record songs directly into internal memory for playback. Once the new piano arrives we will have a two-week trial for folks to check it out! The two acoustic pianos in the church will be donated to Care Village.

Holy Week

April 10, Palm Sunday Worship, 10:30am
One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

April 14, Maundy Thursday Worship, 7pm
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

April 15, Good Friday
Sanctuary Open for Reflection, 12-3pm

April 17, Easter Breakfast Served at 9am
*Please RSVP through the website or
call the church office*

April 17, Easter Sunday Worship, 10:30am



Membership Letter and Survey

Recently, a letter, including a membership status form, was sent to all members of the congregation. One of the responsibilities of the Session is to ensure that church records are up-to-date. Understanding that COVID-19's two-year presence in our lives has reshaped people's present thinking and life patterns, we need the members' help in ascertaining the accuracy of the church's membership rolls.

To that end, please take a moment to provide us with some information and return to the Church office in the stamped envelope provided. We are indeed grateful that the doors of the church are once again open for worship in the Sanctuary and that congregation-wide activities are resuming. It is with Easter joy and Resurrection hope that we look forward to being with you in the fellowship of First Presbyterian.



Annual Meeting Summary

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church of Saline, Michigan, was held in the church sanctuary on March 6, 2022, following the worship service.

The 2021 Annual Report was distributed to members prior to the meeting. Linda Brown, Youth Director, presented a video showing the youth activities during the past year.

John Coffey, Chair-Nominating Committee, thanked the current Nominating Committee for their work – Susan Brown, Joyce Leslie, Jackie Buse, Rachel Nyitray, Nick Clark, and Arleta Greer. The newly approved Nominating Committee for the year 2022 includes Arleta Greer, Bonnie Leutheuser, Debra Manchester, and Fred Lupton.

Laurie Champion reported that the Designated Pastor Committee has been working very closely with the Presbytery Committee on Ministry. The DPNC will continue to review the Personal Information Forms of potential ministerial candidates for the designated pastor position as they become available.

John Coffey reported that the Facilities Task Force was formed by Session to make contact with and negotiate with the City of Saline concerning potential future use of the Church properties located at 100 Hall Street and 102 East McKay Street. The Task Force has retained the law firm of Fink and Fink, PLLC, for the purpose of assisting in negotiations with the City of Saline concerning the possible sale of the Church properties indicated above. Keith Brown presented the architectural drawings on the TV screens in the sanctuary. Potential sale of the properties was brought to the Session's attention when the City of Saline announced their plans to tear up Hall Street for sewer and water pipes to be replaced. When the Church bought the properties on Hall and McKay Streets, it was with the intention to keep the church building from being landlocked. It was noted that any sale of the properties requires congregational approval and the approval of the Presbytery of Detroit.

Treasurer's Report for the Year 2021: Kurt Leutheuser presented the Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2021. Assets total \$1,080,434 including \$621,883 in Property Equity and \$340,039 in the General Fund. The 2021 General Fund report shows \$215,062 in revenue and \$198,803 in expenses for an operating surplus of \$16,259 with \$6,000 of the surplus being rolled over into the Mission Budget for 2022.

Presentation of the 2022 Operating Budget: Kurt Leutheuser presented the 2022 Operating Budget as adopted by the Session. It shows \$234,550 in anticipated revenue and \$243,399 in anticipated expenses for an anticipated deficit of \$8,849 (See page 3 in the newsletter). Janyce Durnell, Clerk of Session

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2022 Operating Budget

	2022 CY Budget	2021 CY Budget	2022 CY Over/(Under) 2021 CY
Operating Revenue			
<u>Non-Designated</u>			
• Pledges	\$ 194,000	\$ 210,000	\$ (16,000)
• Non-Pledge	20,000	25,000	(5,000)
• Loose Plate	7,000	3,000	4,000
• Building Use	500	500	-
• Interest & Dividends	8,200	6,500	1,700
• Draw from Cook Fund/Mission Fund	2,000	2,000	-
<i>Subtotal Non-Designated</i>	<u>\$ 231,700</u>	<u>\$ 247,000</u>	<u>\$ (15,300)</u>
<u>Activity Support</u>			
• Christian Ed Income	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ -
• Adult Bible Study Receipts	300	300	-
• Women's Retreat Receipts	-	2,000	(2,000)
• Community Connection Receipts	700	-	700
<i>Subtotal Activity Support</i>	<u>\$ 1,600</u>	<u>\$ 2,900</u>	<u>\$ (1,300)</u>
<u>Mission Support</u>			
• Mission Fundraisers and Participant Fees	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,250	\$ -
Total Revenue	<u>234,550</u>	<u>251,150</u>	<u>(16,600)</u>
<u>Operating Expenses</u>			
• Christian Education	\$ 24,231	\$ 25,413	\$ (1,182)
• Community Connections	5,000	1,900	3,100
• Stewardship	1,025	1,025	-
• Ministry	47,267	81,665	(34,398)
• Facilities	41,485	38,020	3,465
• Worship	26,598	20,005	6,593
• Administration	73,923	59,150	14,773
• Mission	23,870	26,050	(2,180)
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 243,399</u>	<u>\$ 253,228</u>	<u>\$ (9,829)</u>
Operating Budget Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>\$ (8,849)</u>	<u>\$ (2,078)</u>	<u>\$ (6,771)</u>

Clerk's Session Notes -March

Note: a more detailed version was emailed to the congregation on 3/30/2022

Session met at the church and the moderator, Rev. Budge Gere opened the meeting with prayer.

The Designated Pastor Nominating Committee continues to coordinate with the Committee on Ministry to receive resumes and proceed with interviews.

The Christian Education Committee reported that there will be a Summer Carnival celebrating the coming of Summer on Sunday June 19 from 2-4 for the whole family. The committee is planning Vacation Bible School for the whole family and calling it Summer Nights. It will be on Wednesday nights in the Church Meditation Garden beginning June 22 through August 10. Details to follow.

Treasurer Report: YTD Income: \$37K; YTD Expenses (\$19K); Net \$18K

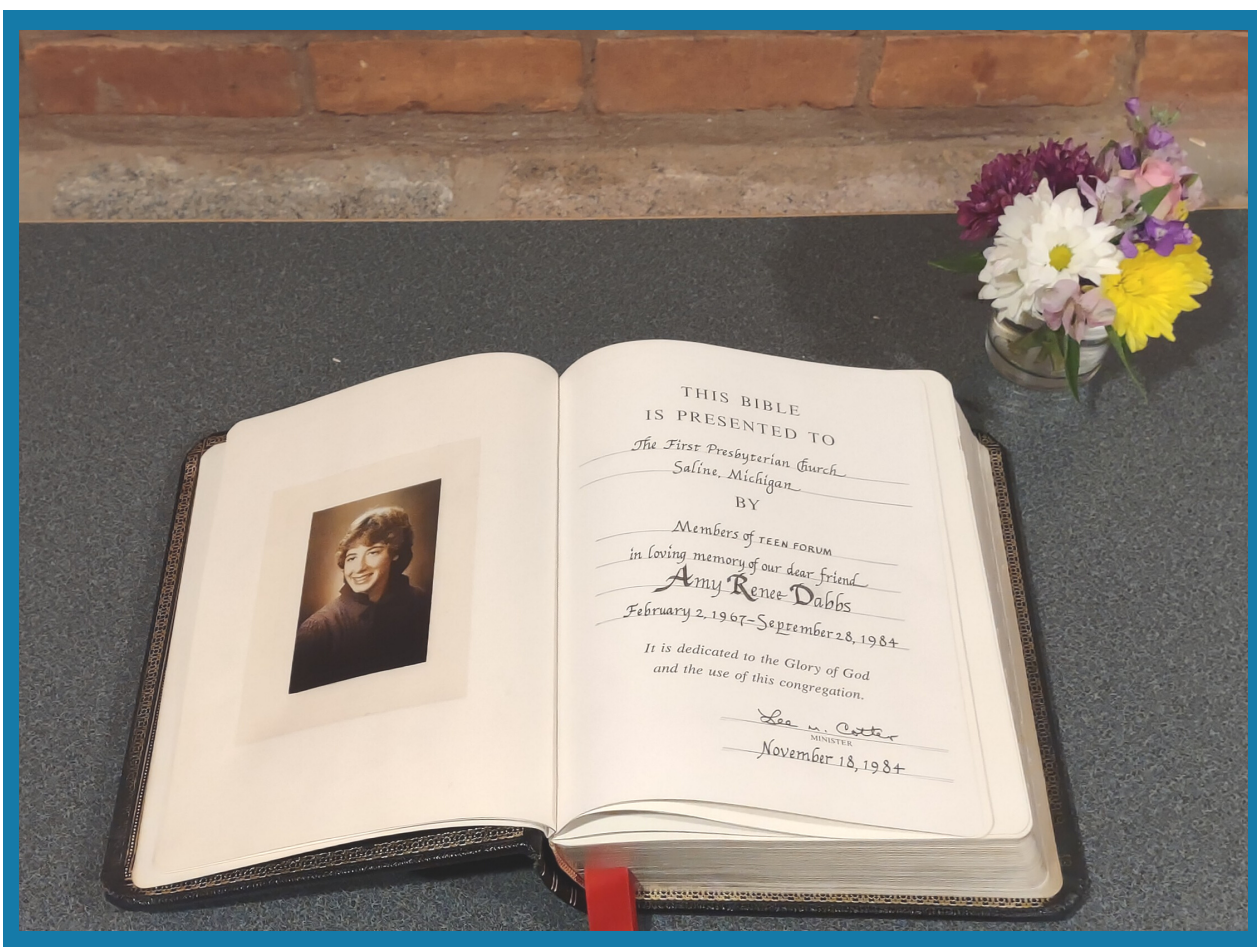
Please Note: Nursery service is provided during Worship every Sunday morning. Emily Snook is the Nursery Care Giver.

The Renee Dabbs Bible *Adapted from a Session Presentation by Bill Woehrle*

A vital piece of our church that is rather small but large at the same time is our Pulpit Bible. In its nearly 2 centuries of existence, the Saline Presbyterian Church has had several successive Pulpit Bibles – a few of which can be seen in a beautiful Display Case located in the Narthex.

In November 1984, our church's Youth Group bought and installed a new Pulpit Bible, dedicated in honor and loving memory of a fellow Teen Forum member – Renee Dabbs - who died from a heart attack. The Renee Dabbs Bible was in place on our Pulpit for years until a newer translation was released. This past Tuesday, our church Session decided to retrieve this Bible from storage and place it in a prominent location in the Narthex – like the older Pulpit Bibles. After a few weeks of viewing, the Renee Dabbs Bible will be given to Renee's parents – Dean and Billy Dabbs – who have recently returned to Saline after living out of state – and are once again attending this church.

So, our Session invites you – as you pass through the Narthex – to take a last look – or a first look – at this beautiful Bible. Then, we will give it to Dean & Billy with love and our collective, wonderful memories.



This Bible is Presented to The First Presbyterian Church of Saline, Michigan by members of Teen Forum in loving memory of our dear friend Amy Renee Dabbs, February 2, 1967-September 28, 1984. It is dedicated to the Glory of God and the use of this congregation.

Mission Statement:

As we grow in faith and live in hope, First Presbyterian Church of Saline will seek to make God's story our story by: Nurturing a healthy, supportive church culture.