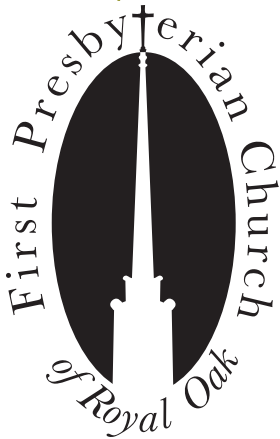


First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak

Church Bell

*"I will make a new covenant...I will put my law within them,
and I will write it upon their hearts..." (Jeremiah 31:33)*

Our theme for Lent this year is: **"Written on Our Hearts."** As we journey through Lent together, as we gather for special worship services and opportunities to listen for God's voice in our lives, I look forward to experiencing together how God writes the "new covenant" on our hearts. Our new relationship in Jesus Christ founded upon God's grace.



February 2012

A word from our pastor...

February in Michigan! I grew up in Rochester, NY, and February weather was pretty similar—only with more snow. But the days are lengthening! Each morning, each evening, you can begin to notice the wonderful change towards more light each day.

I think about how we are preparing for our journey of Lent—our preparations for Easter. Beginning on **Ash Wednesday (February 22nd)**, we devote 40 days and 40 nights (doesn't that number sound Biblical?!) to God as we prepare to celebrate Easter and Christ's resurrection. While in our culture our preparations for Christmas can be so demanding—so busy—I am grateful that our preparations for Easter need not be so stressful. But we do need to prepare. We "tith" or dedicate approximately 1/10th of the year to God in this season—not to take on more activity, not to be "crazy busy," but to deepen our understanding of the cross, and our connection to Christ who died for us and rose for us.

Last year I heard from people who had never been to an Ash Wednesday Service. On **February 22nd there is an Ash Wednesday soup supper at 6 pm and a service for all ages at 6:45 pm.** I heard from people who had never been to a **Good Friday Service (April 6th this year)**, or had never been to one of our **Thursday Evening Lenten Services (which are every Thursday in March--at 6 pm in the chapel).** They told me how much more meaning and joy they found in Easter because of these experiences of worship and

reflection during Lent.

May it be so for you this year. May it be so for all of us! In the midst of all that we are going through, Lent is a gift. Lent is a season in which we can more deeply understand God's presence with us in the midst of suffering and struggle. So the church is here for you. Take on something new—a new "spiritual discipline"—not to be *busier*, but rather to journey *deeper* in the faith of Christ our Lord.



Remember, day by day there is more light in this season.

May it be so in your heart and soul, as we all prepare for the glorious radiance of Easter morning's light! I ask for your prayers for our **February 4-12 mission trip to Haiti.** Mariana Haughey, Leila Sears, Trish Steen, and I will be traveling with our Presbyterian Church (USA) mission co-worker in Haiti, Mark Hare. Mark is a graduate of Michigan State University with a Master's Degree in Forestry. We will be helping to prepare and install a water retention system for local families and working with the families to plant vegetable gardens using tires that are turned inside-out. We also will be helping to provide much-needed dental care and education about dental hygiene. We look forward to sharing with you about what God is doing in Haiti when we return. Grace and Peace!

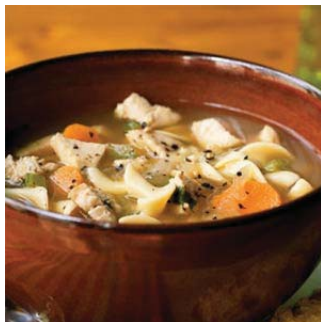
Yours in Christ,
Pastor Tom Rice

Congregational Business

OF NOTE:

Baptisms:

January 15, 2012 - **Jackson Gerard Huvaere**, son of Jeffrey Gerard Huvaere and Jessica Anna (McLean) Huvaere.



ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP SUPPER

On February 22, Ash Wednesday, the High School Fellowship will host a soup supper to support their summer mission trip to Lexington, KY. Instead of charging for the supper, a suggested donation of \$5 is requested. It is a meaningful evening as we share a meal. At 6:45 we journey from Fellowship Hall to the sanctuary for worship led by the tolling of bells. Join us Ash Wednesday to enter together into the mystery and reflection of the Lenten season.

From the Production Team:

Do you have something to submit? Please use our email address to contribute to the next issue of the Church Bell: newsletter@fpcro.org.



Memorials were given in memory of:

*Seaber Callahan
J. Frederic Johnson
Marie Kantarian
Albert Steger
Robert Stevenson
Bessie Ann Stevenson
Mark Sutton*

Honor gifts were given celebrating:

*Judy Pugh
FPCRO Staff
Children's Music Ministries
Mid-High Ministries
Senior High Ministries
Music Ministries*

*Special gifts were given towards the:
Instrument, Music, and Repair Fund*

First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak Staff

Rev. Dr. Thomas F. Rice: *Pastor, Ext. 206*

Rev. Matt Nickel: *Associate Pastor, Ext. 202*

Donald A. Daniels: *Director of Music Ministries, Ext. 218*

Joseph Jackson: *Organist/Music Associate, Ext. 218*

Rachel Gardiner: *Director of Youth Music Ministry*

Dr. Carmel Tinnes: *Director of Christian Ed., Ext. 204*

Ivy Debrow: *Child Care Provider*

Rev. Betsy Rice: *Parish Associate, Ext. 201*

Kari Peruski: *Church Administrator, Ext. 203*

Pamela Kaufmann: *Admin. Assistant, Ext. 207*

Alan Glasel: *Facility Manager*

Gary Moultrup: *Asst. Cust. / DJ Frey: Asst. Cust.*

Jay Kaufmann: *Evening Security/Reception, Ext. 200*

Randy Jarman: *Food Consultant*

Julie Matthews: *Sunflowers Director, Ext. 220*

Beth Heitchue / Sue Ann Sirr / Joan Cone -

Sunflowers Teachers

Soloists

Melissa Maloney: *Soprano*
Alona Moon: *Mezzo Soprano*

Curt Peters: *Tenor*
Peter Morgan: *Bass / Baritone*

Wedding Coordinator

Ginny O'Brien: weddings@fpcro.org

Newsletter published monthly September — June
Production Team: **Kate Bell & Sally Gilreath**
Editor: **Tillie Nelson**

Advisors: **Communications & Evangelism**
Phone: 248.541.0108 Fax: 248.541.1859
website: <http://www.fpcro.org>
email: fpcro@fpcro.org



PRESBYS

The Presbys will be entertained on Friday, February 17 with a wonderful program of SPEBSQSA (Barbershop) singing of songs of the season (St. Valentines Day). The beautiful singing will be provided by "4 GVN" (get it?), a barbershop quartet including our own Greg Moss. We will meet in Kirkman Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm, with dinner at 6:30 pm, program at 7:30 pm. Presbys will be called, others may sign up at the reception desk. Questions? Call Ron Gillham at 248.546.8288



The Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, February 2 from 12 noon-2:00 pm in the Fireside Room. After eating a delicious potluck lunch, participating in a fun activity, and singing a few hymns, we will learn "Little Known Facts About Well-Known Presidents." This interesting and informative topic will be presented by Rev. Dr. Tom Rice. Please sign up at the reception desk for the following: Last names beginning A-F bring a dessert, G-N bring a main dish, and O-Z bring a salad or side dish. Come and bring a friend!

ALL CHURCH GAME NIGHT

Come out to play and have fun on Saturday, February 11 from 4pm-6pm. The High School Fellowship will be hosting carnival style games, board games, card games, delicious snacks and great family fun. It will be a wonderful time for all ages, including children. Proceeds will support the Lexington Mission Trip and the suggested donation is \$7 per person or \$20 per family.



I would like to extend an extra large **THANK YOU** to all who were Sunday morning greeters in 2011. For anyone interested in being a greeter in 2012 please contact me, **Sandy Anderson**, 248.399.6391/sanddanderson@gmail.com. Thanks.

WELCOME & THANK YOU

Staff Email List

Pastor Tom Rice.....trice@fpcro.org
Assoc. Pastor Matt Nickel.....mnickel@fpcro.org
Parish Associate Betsy Rice.....brice@fpcro.org
Carmel Tinnes.....ctinnes@fpcro.org
Don Daniels.....ddaniels@fpcro.org
Joseph Jackson.....jjackson@fpcro.org
Rachel Gardiner.....rgardiner@fpcro.org
Kari Peruski.....kperuski@fpcro.org
Pam Kaufmann.....pkaufmann@fpcro.org
Alan Glasel.....aglasel@fpcro.org
Newsletter Designers.....newsletter@fpcro.org

The Mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak

"Called by God's love in Jesus Christ, we respond by welcoming others into an energizing community of worship, learning and service. Moving forward in faith, making disciples of all ages, we are sent out in the power of the Holy Spirit to make a daily difference in the world."

Educational Ministry

CHILDREN MINISTRY



Vacation Bible School 2012

It is time to start thinking about your family's summer plans. Vacation Bible School this year runs from July 30-Aug 3. Please register your child as soon as possible to make sure that there

is space available for them. This year revisits the beginning of the Christian Church with "**Jerusalem 64 c.e.: Following the Way**". Children will experience the life of the earliest followers of this faith that now has almost 2000 years of tradition. Even if you don't have children of your own, but would like to be a part of this experience, let Carmel know of your interest!

Registration forms are available on the website for download:

<http://www.fpcro.org/pages/about-us/forms.php>

Joyful Journeys



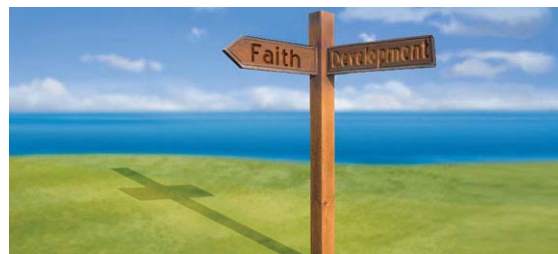
February continues the story of **Creation from Genesis**. On February 19th, during the "Fellowship Hour," you may have an opportunity to hear this story from a child and receive a special gift!

ADULT EDUCATION



Film Festival

February provides another opportunity to gather on Sunday after worship for pizza, salad, a wonderful film and interesting discussion. We will gather on February 12 at 12:00 in the Faith Features room. Sign up on the clipboard in the CE lobby if you plan to attend.



Faith Development during Lent

Avail yourself of the myriad of special services during this season: Ash Wednesday, the brief Lent service on Wednesdays before the WNL supper, the Services of Reflection and Meditation on Thursday evenings, and the special services of Holy Week – Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Saturday. Attending these special services during Lent will help to make your Easter worship experiences richer and more meaningful.

FOOD! FUN! FELLOWSHIP!

Wednesday Night Live dinners are created by our own chef, Randy Jarman. These great meals are a wonderful opportunity to gather with friends, make new friends, and not have to cook one night a week! We are hoping you will enjoy dinner with us from 6:00-7:00 pm each Wednesday, even if the rest of the activities don't fit your schedule.

~Dinner is \$6.00 for adults

~\$5.00 for 9th – 12th graders

~\$3.00 for Kindergarten – 8th graders

~Free for preschoolers

Make your reservations by calling the church office (248.541.0108)



OUR PRESBYTERIAN IDENTITY: LIFE OF JOHN CALVIN

In 2009 we celebrated the 500th anniversary of the birth of John Calvin, who was an influential French theologian and pastor during the Protestant Reformation. He was a principal figure in the development of the system of Christian theology, later called Calvinism. John did not want his name used, he preferred the term Reformed.

John Calvin was born July 10, 1509 in Noyon Picardy, France. When he was only 12 years old he was chaplain in a chapel and in 1527 at the age of 18 he was appointed parish clergy. He studied the humanities - Greek, Latin and Hebrew - and published his first scholarly work in 1532 at the young age of 23.

After John Calvin's "sudden" conversion, others flocked to him and in 1534 he left the Roman Catholic Church. He did not like pagan images and felt that worship should be biblically oriented and in the language of the people, not in Latin. Calvin wanted the Lord's Supper to be celebrated every Sunday but not all agreed because it reminded them of the Roman Catholic tradition. The reformers liked metrical Psalm singing, although they also liked some hymns of human composition. They felt the service should be confessional in nature and that there should be four offices: pastor, teacher, elder, and deacon.

Calvin was a man much more interested in being faithful to God than in creating or following the dictates of a rigid theological system. He felt that to be faithful to God required an always fresh, always open, always curious engagement with who God is and what God calls us to be and do.

He was convinced that God alone is Lord of the conscience, and that God alone calls people in each generation to bear witness to the light God has given them.

One of the most important events in his last years was the establishment, in 1559, of the Geneva Academy, a predecessor to what today is the University of Geneva.

John Knox was also a reformer who traveled to Geneva and learned from Calvin and returned to Scotland in 1559 to bring the Reformation there.

Calvin spent his final years promoting the Reformation both in Geneva and throughout Europe. His writing and preaching provided the seeds for the branch of theology that bears his name. The Presbyterian and other Reformed churches, which look to Calvin as a chief expositor of their beliefs, have spread throughout the world.

John Calvin died May 27, 1564, just before his 55th birthday, and is buried in Geneva, Switzerland in an unmarked grave.

The worship service that we have today at First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak

draws on a contemporary interpretation of Calvin's liturgical theology. Since 2010 we have included the singing of the Psalms, which is one of the hallmarks of John Calvin. The major difference is Calvin's service lasted at least three hours, including a one-hour-long sermon!

*Sandra Olah,
Worship and Music Committee*

New Deacons



Karen Barger has been an FPCRO member for 38 years. She originally began attending church with her parents, Paul and Jewell Watson. She and her husband Charlie were married in the church and they have three grown children, Patrick, Elizabeth and Lindsay. Karen has served previously as a Deacon and as a member of the Nominating Committee.



Ron Coleman moved into Royal Oak in 1995 and says he attended FPCRO as visitor occasionally over the years, but eventually felt called to transfer his church membership here and did so, formally joining the congregation a little more than a year ago. Ron works for the U.S. Government and enjoys biking, motorcycling and studying military history in his spare time.



Barbara Ferriby says she and her family began attending FRCRO almost 20 years ago at the invitation of then-new neighbors, Jim and Jeanne Cline. Barb is a Project Manager at Valassis Communications and the mother of three students (Sarah, a junior at WSU, Doug a freshman at OCC, and Hannah, a freshman at International Academy). A former member of the Evangelism Committee and Martha Circle, Barb says she spends her free time reading, gardening and “dreaming about recipes she may some day make!”



Ruth Goode, a 20 year member of FPCRO says she originally found the church through a listing in the Yellow Pages. Ruth is the mother of two daughters, Leah and Emily and the grandmother of three year old Aiden. Ruth is currently serving as a Stephen Minister, has previously served as a Deacon and a Trustee, and is a new college grad, recently earning her associates degree in Culinary Arts from the Art Institute of Novi.



Donald Johnson and his wife Pat joined FPCRO a little more than a year ago. Don says they first attended as visitors while looking for a neighborhood church to join. He said they enjoyed listening to the choir and really appreciated Tom’s messages. Now, as a member, Don sings in the Chancel Choir, is a part of Carmel’s lectionary group and belongs to a 5F small group. Don owns a tax practice and has two grown sons that live in the area. He enjoys reading, singing, playing guitar and all things tech-related.

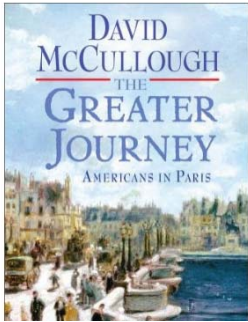


Michael Maiuri became a member of the congregation two years ago with his wife Karen, and daughter MacKenzie. Currently a member of the Memorials and Furnishings Committee, Mike also has two grown children, Melissa (living in Nashville) and Anthony (living in Los Angeles). He enjoys playing golf in his free time.

The Greater Journey

David McCullough

718.44 M



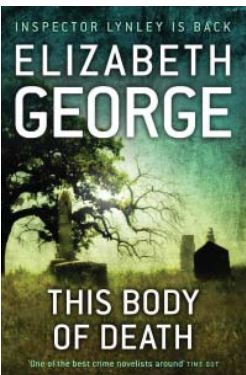
“The Greater Journey” is the enthralling, inspiring and until now, untold story of adventurous American artists, writers, doctors, politicians, architects, and others of high aspirations who set off for Paris in the years between 1830 and 1900, ambitious to excel in their work.

That they achieved so much for themselves and their country, profoundly altered American history. As David McCullough writes, “Not all pioneers went west.”

This Body of Death

Elizabeth George

G



On compassionate leave, after the murder of his wife, Thomas Lynley is called back to Scotland Yard when the body of a woman is found stabbed and abandoned in an isolated London cemetery.

While Lynley works in London, his former colleagues, Barbara Havers and Winston Nkota, follow the murder trail south to the New Forest. There they

discover a beautiful and strange place where animals roam free, the long-lost art of thatching is very much alive, and outsiders are not entirely welcome.

This multi-layered jigsaw puzzle of a story is skillfully structured to keep readers guessing until the very end. “This Body of Death” is a magnificent achievement from a writer at the peak of her prowess.

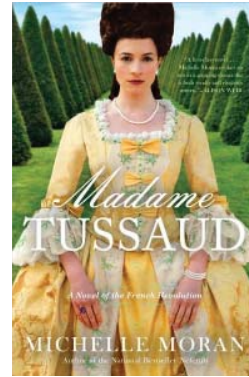
We have just added some new books outside the library that are for sale.

Please stop by and check them out.

Madame Tussaud

Michelle Moran

M



The world knows Madame Tussaud as a wax artist extraordinaire..but who was this woman who became one of the most famous sculptresses of all time? In these pages, her tumultuous and amazing story comes to life as only Michelle Moran can tell it. The year is 1788 and a revolution is about to begin.

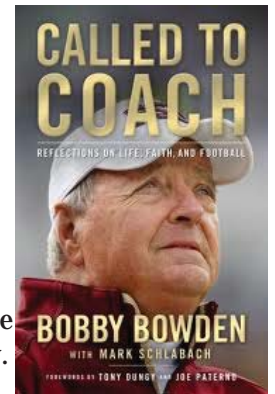
Her customers hail from every walk of life, yet her greatest dream is to attract the attention of Marie Antoinette and Louis XVI. Their stamp of approval on her work could catapult her and her museum to the fame and riches she desires.

Spanning five years, from the budding revolution to the Reign of Terror, Madame Tussaud brings us into the world of an incredible heroine whose talent for wax modeling saved her life and preserved the faces of a vanished kingdom.

Called To Coach

Bobby Bowden

796.33B



As a young child, Bobby Bowden lived with his backyard adjacent to the east end zone of the local high school football field. He and his dad would climb on the roof of their garage and watch the team practice for hours everyday. Football was in his blood.

Coach Bowden has become a household name in the world of college football. Bowden says, “We won a lot of games in Florida State, but my greatest accomplishments were seeing my players become good husbands, fathers, and professionals.”

“The most important thing I hope people would say about me is that Bobby Bowden served God’s purpose for his life.”

There is no question that Bowden has achieved amazing things throughout his career, but the lives he has touched along the way are the true glory of his legacy. This is that story.

The First Presbyterian
Church of Royal Oak
529 Hendrie Blvd.
Royal Oak, Michigan 48067

Address service requested

Worship Services
Sunday mornings at
9 am & 10:30 am

DEADLINE for the MARCH 2012 Newsletter: FEBRUARY 15, 2011



Love is in the air at Sunflowers Preschool! We so enjoy the month of hearts and happy sentiments, especially as winter weather keeps us inside. God's love keeps us warm on the coldest of days! This month, our preschoolers will paint with pink paint, and wear pink clothing on "pink" day. Special valentines for Moms and Dads will also be carefully crafted in each class. We will share valentines with all our classmates, and make a delicious dessert for our Valentine party.

Our three year old class will be practicing more with scissors this month, and working on printing our names independently. It's not easy! We also have new friends in our class which is very fun.

Our four year olds continue the alphabet study, and the 'Friday Centers' that get us ready for the routine of kindergarten. We hope to visit the Clawson Post Office early in the month to learn how letters are sorted and delivered.

Registration for the 2012-2013 school year opens early in February. If you are interested in enrolling your child, please call 248.541.0108, x220 so that we may mail out registration information to you. There will also be scholarship applications available, if needed, this year. Our Three Year Olds meet Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:15 am – 11:45 am. Our Four Year Olds meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:15 am – 12:00. Hope to hear from you soon!

Ms. Matthews, Mrs. Heitchue, Mrs. Sirr and Mrs. Cone