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April 2022

Volume VII

Issue 4



We're Moving to 4472 Breton Rd. SE in Kentwood!

On April 3, we will observe the first worship service in our new home in Bretwood Centre Mall on the SE corner of Breton and 44th St. SE, across the street from Horrocks Market. Comfortable seating, room for all, great hymns, stimulating preaching, wonderful fellowship, and the fulfillment of worshipping our Lord.

MINUTE WITH MIKE

*Let love of the brethren continue.
Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers,
for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.
Hebrews 13:1-2*

Dearest sisters and brother in the faith,

New Church greetings to you and yours!

What a joy, what a gift to be in our “new church” and back in the mission field! You have prayed and worked and given well to make this all happen. And, of course, we’ve had “a little” help from our wonderful and glorious God!

Now that we’re in – what? What’s next? The answer is two-fold. 1.) Continue to pray! We must continue to pour out our hearts before the Lord. Keep asking for mercy and grace, guidance, and strength to do the kingdom work that presents itself to us. God hears our prayers and answers them. We must keep asking and trusting and thanking Him; and 2.) be a witness! Show loving kindness and hospitality to all those who are visiting. Offer to follow up with people, to keep in touch, get a name, introduce them around. After all, they well may be a special visitor. (Please reread the above verses)!

Everyone who comes through our doors is a gift from God – no matter what – no exceptions! Researchers tell us the hardest part of becoming involved with a church is walking through the door the very first time. Understand that and be sensitive. We thank God for all our guests and treat them as we would want to be treated. They’ve come to consider being a part of our family of faith so please welcome them in.

Let’s grow our church into a living testimony to the goodness and love of our Lord Jesus! Let’s grow our church in the power of the Holy Spirit, that we would be a spiritual hospital for the broken and wounded, a lighthouse for those living in darkness, a city set on a hill for the sojourner.

Oh, dear ones, what a gift and opportunity we have – let’s pour into this gift, this calling from God and bless the world for the sake of Jesus our Lord – Who has blessed us all beyond description!

In the joy and privilege I have to labor with you to the glory of God!

Mike

SESSION NEWS

The Session did not meet during the month of March.

DATES – APRIL

1st Friday: Men’s Breakfast Devotional at (Bob Evans) – 9:30am
2nd Saturday: Leadership Training 9:00am – 12noon
3rd Sunday: FIRST SUNDAY IN THE “NEW CHURCH”, Fifth Sunday of Lent / Worship and Communion 10:00am, Choir practice after Worship; Devotion at Samaritas, The Woods

[Bob’s home] 2:30pm
6th Wednesday: Church-wide Prayer Call 7:00pm
7th Thursday: Session meeting 7:30pm
10th Sunday: Sixth Sunday of Lent: Palm Sunday, Choir warm up before church; Worship and Communion 10:00am
13th Wednesday: Prayer Call at 7:00pm
14th Thursday: Bilyea’s Home Group meeting at 1:00pm

14th Thursday: Bible Study at Grand Village [Barb's home] at 3:00pm
 14th Thursday: Maundy Thursday dinner/devotions
 15th Friday: Good Friday Prayer service 2:00pm
 17th Sunday: Seventh Sunday of Lent: Easter CONSECRATION SUNDAY; Easter Choir warm up before worship; Worship and Communion 10:00am
 17th Sunday: Devotional at Grand Village [Barb] – 2:00pm
 18th Monday: Newsletter deadline
 20th Wednesday: Prayer Call at 7:00pm
 24th Sunday: Worship 10:00am; Devotional at Brook Crest [Joan] at 2:30pm
 27th Wednesday: Prayer Call at 7:00pm
 28th Thursday: Bilyea's Home Group meeting 1:00pm
 28th Thursday: Bible Study at Grand Village [Barb's home] at 3:00pm
 29th Friday: Ladies Luncheon at First Wok (44th Street) at 1:00pm
 30th Saturday: Presbytery meeting, Columbus, Ohio

Liturgist – Dr. Laura
 Musician - Maureen Sweet
 Special Music – Henry Gachini & Rachel Wahome
 Greeting - Henry Gachini
 Sound Booth – Robert, Liam & Seamus Adams

MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER DEVOTIONS

We are so excited to be able to hold our traditional Maundy Thursday dinner devotions again this year! At the time of this writing, the exact time of the event is yet to be determined. None-the-less, slips have been printed containing all the items needed for the service. Please look for them and take what you will. If you have questions, please let Pastor Mike know.

GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER SERVICE

Dr. Laura will lead an hour-long prayer service on Good Friday beginning at 2:00pm. The service will focus on the crucifixion account and will provide opportunity to pray and reflect. If you have questions about the service, please contact Dr. Laura.

EASTER WEEKEND PRAYER VIGIL

We are excited to offer you, your friends and family members an opportunity to pray over the Easter weekend. We'll begin the Prayer Vigil on Good Friday at 3:00pm and pray continuously through to 7:00am Easter Sunday morning. Please look for the sign-up sheet. If you have any questions about the Prayer Vigil, please speak with Pastor Mike.

LADIES LUNCHEON

You're invited to join some of the ladies of the church meeting at First Wok on 44th Street at 1:00 PM each last Friday of the month at 1:00pm. It's a great time of prayer and fellowship as the "sisters" meet with Pastor Mike. (Everyone is "Dutch.") For more information contact Pastor Mike at (616) 822-9988.

SERVING

3rd: Preaching - Pastor Mike
 Liturgist – Dr. Laura
 Musician - Marjorie Boerema
 Special Music – Adams family
 Communion Bread - Rachel Wahome
 Officiating the Table - Henry Gachini
 Greeting - Bill & Sandee Keating
 Sound Booth - Gary & Dana Lehmann
 10th: Preaching – Dr. Laura
 Liturgist – Pastor Mike
 Marjorie Boerema - Musician
 Special Music – Easter Choir
 Communion Bread - Rachel Wahome
 Officiating the Table – Robert Adams
 Greeting - Diane Solomon & Marilyn Potgeter
 Sound Booth - Gary & Dana Lehmann
 17th: Preaching - Pastor Mike
 Liturgist – Dr. Laura
 Maureen Sweet - Musician
 Special Music – Easter Choir
 Communion Bread - Rachel Wahome
 Officiating the Table - Henry Gachini
 Greeting – Roger & Marie Zoerner
 Sound Booth - Liam & Seamus Adams
 24th: Preaching – Pastor Mike

MEN OF THE CHURCH

The Men of the Church meet every **FIRST FRIDAY** of the month at 9:30am at Bob Evans (Kalamazoo Ave. at M6). After a brief devotional and prayer, the gents enjoy a breakfast and great conversation. All are welcome to join us.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1	Seth Gunby
2	Phyllis Miller
3	Marjorie Boerema
11	Jim Rittersdorf
16	Kael Gunby
22	Mike/Donna Baynai/Anniv

HOST A HOME GROUP

For more than four years now we have been blessed as a result of Dana Bilyea opening her home to a church group for fellowship and prayer. It's called the Bilyea Home Group, and we meet every other Thursday at 1:00pm. If you would like to host a Home Group of your own, I would be thrilled to join you and offer my assistance in building your group and developing a format. The church could use another Home Group, and God, of course, gets all the glory. Please consider opening your home up for this kind of ministry.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITY

Are you wanting to pour out your heart before the Lord? You have an opportunity to do so each week on Wednesday at 7:00pm. Join Pastor Mike, Dr. Laura and others as together we, "pour out our hearts before Him".

Dial-in-number: 1-602-580-9612
Access Code: 6914064

GREETERS AND LITURGISTS

We have begun once again to ask you to serve the church as Greeters and as Liturgists. A number of you have indicated you would like to serve the church in those capacities when you filled in your 2022 Personal Interest Inventory – thank you!

NEW BIBLE STUDY

In an attempt to be more present for all our members and as an outreach to the community, Pastor Mike is beginning a new Bible Study at Grand Village. Grand Village is the home for Barb Bailey. Barb and Pastor Mike, along with a number of other residents from Grand Village, will study the book of Romans every other Thursday at 3:00pm. The studies will occur on the same Thursdays as the Bilyea Home Group meeting. If you would like more information or to attend, please feel free to speak with Barb or Pastor Mike.

ENERGY BALL RECIPE

(Submitted by Sandee Keating)

12 oz peanut butter
About ½ of small bottle honey
About 1/3 small tub quick oats oatmeal
12 oz mini chocolate chips

I put chocolate chips, PB and honey in microwave for 1 minute just to make it easier to mix in nuts, dried fruit and oatmeal. I used a bag of dried cranberries no sugar added for the fruit and about 3 ounces of chopped peanuts. This made about 3 dozen balls.

Add to your taste: chocolate or cocoa (can be used in place of chocolate chips)
Mix in flax seed, dried fruit, nuts, or other items to your liking. Mix together to get texture that will allow balls to be rolled and stay together. (Too dry, add peanut butter or honey. Too moist, add oatmeal.
*This recipe makes a lot of balls so you may want to try cutting it in half.

*Sandee used Meijer brand honey.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Dear Pastor Mike and my Worshiping Family:

I want to thank you all so very much for honoring me as the heart of the Church. I so appreciated your love and attention. I had no idea I had affected so many lives. I am still overwhelmed when I think about it!

Your prayers and support are heart-warming.

In His Love,
Dana Bilyea

BROOKS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

More properly named the Doug and Elaine Brooks Memorial Scholarship Fund this fund was endowed by our beloved founder, Elder Bob Brooks, in memory of his dearly departed son and wife for the purpose of assisting church members and their families with their education.

Each year at this time we solicit applications from qualified candidates for a scholarship award with the intention of granting them a scholarship for the fall semester at an educational institution of their choice be it college, graduate study or a vocational school.

Qualified candidates are urged to submit a letter defining their educational plan and needs for the coming school year to the board of trustees of the fund. The current trustees are Pastor Mike, Jim Miller, and Gary Lehmann. The trustees would like to receive these letters no later than mid-April for their consideration. It should be noted that the fund is always in need of additional endowments, and members are urged to consider an annual gift. This is also a great program to consider when you are doing estate planning.”

DUTIES INCUMBENT ON US

(Submitted by Donna Baynai)

One of the first, and most important of those duties which are incumbent upon us, is *fervent and united prayer...* All means which we can use, without it, will be ineffectual. If a temple is raised for God in the heathen world, *it will not be by might, nor by power, nor by the authority of the magistrate, or the eloquence of the orator, but My Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts.* We must therefore be in real earnest in supplicating his blessing upon our labours.
~William Carey (the Father of Modern Missions)

WEDDING

On February 15, Pastor Mike performed the wedding ceremony for Leyla Del Carmen Miranda and Raul Faustino Fernandez. These two are life-long friends and Carmen is a relative "in-law" to Bettye Kay. Watch for them to visit us!!!



GSPC Choir

*My lips will shout for joy
when I sing praise to you—
I whom you have delivered.
~Psalm 71:23*

It is time once again for us to gather as a choir and sing praises to our Lord and Savior! All are welcome to join.

Choir Rehearsal Schedule

March 20, 27 and April 3 - rehearse after church

April 10 (Palm Sunday) - warm up at 9:30 and rehearse after church

April 17 (Easter) - warm up at 9:30

We will sing on Palm Sunday and Easter.

Blessings,

Cammi Adams - Music Minister

Things Satan Wants More Than Anything Else – Victoria Riollano

In the March issue of Shepherd's Voice two of the things Satan wants more than anything else were introduced: To make you doubt God's word and to paralyze you with fear. This issue introduces you to two new desires of Satan. Watch the May issue for the conclusion of the series

3. To Silence You from Sharing the Gospel

A Christian who hoards the gospel to themselves is an ineffective Christian. One of our primary roles as a follower of Christ is to make more followers of Christ. In fact, [Matthew 28:19](#), would deem it to be our greatest mission. Yet, one trick of the enemy is to silence Christians. We see this in modern social media as many Christians feel nervous to share God's Word for fear of being virtually attacked or not wanting to be associated with the "church."

Although we cannot give the enemy 100% credit for this (truthfully, those who share the gospel in a way that is malicious and hateful have played a role), we can see how many Christians prefer to worship quietly to not cause anyone to be offended. Yet, followers of Christ should take every moment they can to spread the gospel. When we shrink back from doing so, the enemy wins! If we aren't being an influencer for Christ, the enemy will certainly find opportunities to influence those around us. Let us no longer be ashamed to share the gospel, by any means necessary.

"For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile." ([Romans 1:16](#))

4. To Cause You to Live in Shame

Reminding you of your past indiscretions or current insecurities is another scheme of the enemy. In fact, if the enemy can convince you that your past has disqualified you from receiving God's love or grace, you will never come to accept the Word of God fully. In this manner, you will remain defeated and frustrated, only accepting some of God's Word. Shame keeps our eyes focused on ourselves, reminding us over and over of what we did wrong or how we don't measure up.

Truthfully, the enemy has no issue reminding you of these things and making you feel like you aren't worthy to worship God, to do things that He has called you to do, or to receive His promises. Even more so, this shame will keep you from praying to God and even sharing the gospel with others. If the enemy can keep you in self-pity, you will never walk in God's peace. Remember, we are not a sum of our past behaviors. Instead, when we make a choice to turn away from sinful desires and walk towards God's love, He will show us how to live a life that is rewarding and where we can be free from condemnation.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." ([1 John 1:9](#))

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." ([Romans 8:1](#))

76 TROMBONES AND A BUNCH OF DISCO GROOVY NUNS!

GSPC member Faywen Adams would like to personally invite you all to attend two wonderful musicals being put on by the music/theater departments within the Grandville Public Schools.

1. Be transported back to early 20th century Iowa where the small town of River City has "Trouble with a capital T"! Pool tables have entered their small town to taint the youth and only Professor Harold Hill has the remedy...a new youth marching band! Meanwhile, Hill's heart is bewitched by the lovely town librarian Marion. Come join the fun and experience this classic American musical, **Music Man**. You'll enjoy humming along to classic tunes like *76 Trombones*, *Shipooopi*, and *Goodnight My Someone!*

Faywen Adams is playing the role of Gracie Shinn, the Mayor of River City's younger daughter. Her older brother, Seamus Adams, will be playing cello in the Pit Orchestra.

Music Man

When: April 21st - 23rd at 7pm, April 24 at 3pm

Where: Grandville High School (4700 Canal Ave. SW, Grandville, MI)

Tickets will come available two weeks before the show. Go to: Grandville High School's Theater Website at <https://sites.google.com/gpsbulldogs.org/grandville-high-school-theatre/home>, or contact Cammi Adams closer to showtime at cammi.adams@gmail.com. You can also buy tickets at the door.

2. If the Disco Era is more to your liking, then please join Faywen and all of her middle school theater friends as they present ***Sister Act Jr.*** This fun and uplifting musical tells the story of Deloris Van Cartier, a club singer from Philadelphia, who witnesses a murder. She is placed in the witness protection program and hidden in a convent. While there, Deloris helps to musically "breathe life" back into the church choir. The Nuns learn to praise the Lord with upbeat cheerful hearts and Deloris learns the power of faith and friendship...Sisterhood in its purest form!

Faywen has been cast in the lead role as Deloris in this simplified youth friendly version of the musical. Plus a handful of our own GSPC blue hymnals are being used as props throughout the musical as the Nuns learn to get their "groove on" for the Lord!

Sister Act Jr.

When: May 6th - 7th at 7pm, May 7th - 1pm matinee

Where: Grandville Middle School (3535 Wilson Ave. SW, Grandville, MI)

Tickets will come available two weeks before the show. Go to <https://ms.gpsbulldogs.org/> or contact Cammi Adams closer to showtime at cammi.adams@gmail.com. You can also buy tickets at the door.

DIRECT-YOUR-DOLLARS



I'm excited to announce that Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church is partnering with SpartanNash, the big food distributor, in their direct-your-dollars charitable program. This was previously announced via email.

The way this works is that everyone saves their receipts for groceries purchased at one of the SpartanNash stores and turns them in to the church. Once we've collected \$150,000 worth of receipts, we submit them to SpartanNash, and they give us a check for \$1,000! The SpartanNash stores in the Grand Rapids area are Family Fare, D&W and Forest Hills Foods.

I know that sounds like a lot but you'd be amazed how fast it adds up, particularly if you recruit friends and family members to add their receipts to yours. Please turn in your receipts on the last Sunday of each month to Jim Miller and I'll conglomerate them together and, eventually, submit them for our cash reward!

Submitted by Jim Miller

