

MINUTE WITH MIKE

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth...

(Genesis 1:26-28)

Thou shall not murder!

(Exodus 20:13)

Dearest brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus,

I'm praying this changing time of the year might remind us all that God and His law never changes.

As I write this article, I am deeply grieved. Earlier today I read the monthly publication that comes from American Family Association; The Stand. Honestly, I could weep. I could weep for our children and grandchildren; I could weep for the church and for all those who seek to walk in God's way. The world in which we live is rapidly becoming more and more evil and so much of what's come upon us is simply satanic. Make no mistake, Satan wants your children and grandchildren and mine as well, and they are not safe.

Nor are children yet to be born – they are not safe either. There are those who champion abortion on demand and thus the murder of the most innocent and defenseless members of our society. Those who are being knit together in their mother's womb by the fingers of God, those who at a primal level trust completely the very one whom God has appointed to nurture and love them. Dear ones, abortion is murder; it is sinful, and God will punish those who sin and are not repentant.

This November the citizens of this nation will go to the polls to vote. In Michigan one of the proposals, you will vote on is Proposal 3. This proposal will open the door for abortion on demand even right up to the moment a child is to be birthed. It will, among other things, allow minors to have abortions without parental consent or notification. I can't tell you how to vote (I'm not interested in that, and you surely don't need my help...). But I want to tell you as a child of God who is alive today because my mother did not murder, Proposal 3 is murder and everyone who advocates for it is guilty.

"God created [all people] in His own image, in the image of God He created [them]; male and female He created them. [And] God blessed them..." Will you pray with me, will you pray with the church of Jesus Christ that Satan will kill our babies no longer in Michigan.

May the Lord Jesus bless us and forgive us of all our sins – for His glory, now and forever. Amen!
In the joy and privilege to be your brother, friend and pastor,

Mike

SESSION NEWS

The 82nd Stated Meeting of the Session of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church was called to order Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 7:30 PM on Zoom, Pastor Mike Baynai, Moderator.

Devotions and Prayer – Gary Lehmann provided devotions and the opening prayer.

Roll & Determination of a Quorum: Present: Moderator Pastor Mike Baynai; Ruling Elders Robert Adams, Bill Keating, Gary Lehmann, Jim Miller; and Emeritus Elder Betty Rittersdorf. *A quorum was present.*

Clerk's Report

Next Communion will be observed on Sunday, October 2, 2022; the last communion was observed Sunday, September 18, 2022.

Membership

Active Membership as of 8/17/2022	42
Active Membership as of 9/19/2022	42

Correspondence

- None

Funerals

- Barbara Jean Bailey - died July 15, 2022 - funeral July 21, 2022
- Alfred Schumacher - died August 2, 2022 - funeral August 8, 2022
- Lois Anne Scolaro (non-member) - died June 13, 2022 - funeral August 12, 2022

Worship Services

Attendance	8/21/2022	32 adults and 2 children at GSPC
Attendance	8/28/2022	38 adults at GSPC
Attendance	9/4/2022	21 adults at GSPC
Attendance	9/11/2022	28 adults at GSPC
Attendance	9/18/2022	21 adults at GSPC

Treasurer's Report 8/31/2022

+\$25,848.80	Cash on Hand as of 8/31/2022
-0-	CD#1 (Northpoint Bank)
-0-	CD#2 (Northpoint Bank)
\$25,848.80	TOTAL CASH AVAILABLE

(LESS FOLLOWING COMMITTED FUNDS)

-0-	Accrued Joyful Noise offerings
-0-	Building Fund (Summary below)
\$25,848.80	Uncommitted Funds Available

Notes:

- Uncommitted funds, as of end of Jul, were \$30,431.94. Our LOSS in Aug was \$4,583.14

Potential Additional Costs:

- Camera (Dana – TBD)
- Raised Verse letters (paid in full, but Session should reimburse Jim ½ of cost = \$537.50 due in future)

Potential Credit:

- Refund for payment to move piano (Should we drop this issue, or pursue via attorney and/or Better Business Bureau?)

Consent Agenda – The Clerk and the Treasurer have moved to approve their respective reports, and to approve the minus for all session and congregational meetings (as amended) which have been held since the last session meeting. **The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

Compensation for Hymn Sing Accompanist — Session decided that the accompanist will be paid at the same rate as a Sunday service. Session may reevaluate in 2023.

Assistant Pastor is on sabbatical until January.

Date Check

- Oct 2 Hymn Sing
- Oct 20 Lunch and Learn with Traditional Christian Values
- Oct 22 Trunk or Treat
- Oct 23 Church potluck
- Oct 29 Walking another neighborhood

Church Planting Team Survey — Mike will complete and submit the survey

Church Sign — The light in the church sign should be fixed. Mike will drive over some night and verify.

Special Order of Business

The Session discussed that at some point Pastor Mike will decide to retire. While he has not made a decision to do so, and no plans to retire have been made, the Session has decided to discuss options with Presbytery so we can be prepared.

Next Presbytery Meeting — **October 14-15 in Marysville, OH**

Next Session Meeting — The next session meeting will be **Thursday October 20, 2022; 7:30pm on Zoom.**

Closing Prayer – Pastor Mike closed the meeting with prayer; adjourned at approximately 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Adams. Clerk of Session

DATES – OCTOBER

2nd Sunday: Worship and Communion 10:00am
5th Wednesday: Beth Moore Study 1:30pm
5th Wednesday: Church-wide Prayer Call 7:00pm
9th Sunday: Worship 10:00am – Pulpit guest Rev. Carolyn Cammenga
12th Wednesday: Church-wide Prayer Call 7:00pm
13th Thursday: Bilyea's Home Group meeting 1:00pm
16th Sunday: Worship at 10:00am – Pulpit guest Rev. Dr. Won Lee
19th Wednesday: Beth Moore Study – 1:30pm
19th Wednesday: Prayer Call 7:00pm
20th Thursday: **Mid-morning Prayer Hour 10:30am (at the church)**
20th Thursday: Lunch-n-Learn 11:30am – Jim Muffett TCV
20th Thursday: Session meeting 7:30pm (Zoom)
22nd Saturday: Trunk or Treat 10:00am (Kentwood City Public Works Building)
23rd Sunday: Worship at 10:00am
23rd Sunday: Fellowship Feast after worship
23rd Sunday: Devotion at Brook Crest (Joan's home) at 2:30pm
24th Monday: Newsletter deadline
26th Wednesday: Beth Moore, at 1:30pm
26th Wednesday: Church-wide Prayer Call 7:00pm
27th Thursday: **Mid-morning Prayer Hour 10:30am (at the church)**
27th Thursday: Bilyea's Prayer Group meeting 1:00pm
27th Thursday: Bible Study at Grand Village 3:00pm
28th Friday: Ladies Luncheon at 1:00pm [New location TBA]
29th Saturday: Fall Harvest 10:00am (meeting at the church)
30th Sunday: Worship at 10:00am
30th Sunday: Board of Deacons meeting after worship

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

2 Norm Dragoo
4 Bettye Kay
4 Marilyn Potgeter
5 Jim/Betty Rittersdorf (anniv.)
8 Dan/Anne Vanderberg (anniv.)
9 Marv DeYoung
18 Gary Lehmann

19 Jim/Phyllis Miller (anniv.)
31 Betty Rittersdorf

SERVING

Week of 2nd:

Greeting: Bill & Sandee
Sound Booth: Lehmann
Musician: Marjorie
Special Music: Marjorie
Preaching: Pastor Mike
Communion Bread: Rachel
Elders Serving: Henry & Robert
Fellowship Host: Betty Rittersdorf
Cleaning: Henry & Mercy

Week of 9th:

Greeting: Bettye Kay & Marilyn
Sound Booth: Lehmann
Musician: Marjorie
Special Music: Rachel & Henry
Liturgist: Dana Lehmann
Preaching: Rev. Carolyn Cammenga
Fellowship Host: Sandee
Cleaning: Mike, Donna & Bev

Week of 16th:

Greeting: Roger & Marie
Sound Booth: Lehmann
Musician: Maureen
Special Music: Adams
Liturgist: Robert Adams
Preaching: Rev. Dr. Won Lee
Fellowship Host: Marie Zoerner
Cleaning: Rachel

Week of 23rd:

Greeting: Henry & Mercy
Sound Booth: Lehmann
Musician: Maureen
Special Music: Pastor Mike
Preaching: Pastor Mike
Fellowship Host: Donna
Cleaning: Bill & Sandee

Week of 30th:

Greeting: Rachel & Donna
Sound Booth: Lehmann
Musician: Marjorie
Special Music: Mercy
Preaching: Pastor Mike
Fellowship: Cammi & Faywen
Cleaning: Mike & Donna

MEMBERS/FRIENDS IN NEED OF PRAYER

Bill Keating, surgery October 5; Marilyn Potgeter, surgery

FRIENDLY REMINDER

How can we listen to the news today without being reminded that we're living in hard times with all the prices rising and people attempting to keep up with the current state of the economy? Summer travel and activities have added to the problems the country is facing. So, too, all of these things have an effect on churches as well as individuals. Your Session would like to remind everyone to try to keep up with meeting church pledges. The initial startup costs for our new home have almost been covered, but our financial responsibilities do not end there. We still have day-to-day expenses such as monthly rent, salaries, etc. to pay. Sadly, we've lost some members which alone creates a monthly deficit. So, your Session is asking members to try to remain faithful and current with pledges, and if summer activities have kept you from attending, please try to be mindful of the needs of the church by trying to catch up if need be. If your circumstances have changed and you need to amend your initial pledge, please talk with Pastor Mike or Jim Miller or Bill Keating so they have a realistic picture of monthly income. Thank you.

UPCOMING POTLUCK

Please make plans to join us on Sunday, October 23 for a church-wide Fellowship Feast potluck immediately after service. There is a signup form at the back of the church. Please indicate your name (or family name), the number of people that will be attending, and a dish you will bring. If nothing else please specify "main," "side," "salad," or "dessert."

KENTWOOD TRUNK OR TREAT

This is a city of Kentwood community event that Bill and I saw advertised, talked with a Parks and Recreation coordinator, received permission from our Session to participate in and are registered to be a participant. We thought this would be a good

opportunity to be part of the community that our church is located in, and as we remembered Pastor Mike writing at one time that we are not only located in Kentwood now, but we should also be part of the community.

We will be decorating our Jeep trunk, dressing in costume and be prepared to pass out 2,000 pieces of candy to children as suggested by Parks and Rec coordinator. We will also be passing out our church pens and information cards to any and all adults who may inquire and seem interested in our church. Our portable church sign will be set by our Jeep. Hopefully, this will be another way to have exposure to our Kentwood neighbors and with God's blessing, we will see some of these children with their parents visiting our church.

The date is October 22, 2022, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM at the Kentwood Department of Public Works, 5068 Breton Road SE, Kentwood, MI. If anyone is interested in helping in some way, we ask for prayers that this event be used to share the good news of God's blessings in a fun, lighthearted event. We also need contributions of candy or money for us to buy the candy by October 16. Registration is free so the candy is our only cost, and we would happily accept donations but are also prepared to cover whatever cost remains. Feel free to stop by and visit during the event if you like. We are looking forward to this event.

Bill and Sandee Keating

LADIES LUNCHEON

You're invited to join some of the ladies of the church each LAST FRIDAY of the month at 1:00pm. It's a great time of prayer and fellowship as the "sisters" meet (everyone is "Dutch"). For more information regarding time and place, please contact Elaine Miller or Bettye Kay.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

NEW: Beginning October 20 there will be a Mid-Morning prayer hour at the church at 10:30am. Pastor Mike will lead this time and everyone – members, friends, visitors and guests alike, is invited. For more information, please contact Pastor Mike.

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 we together, “pour out our hearts before Him”.

Dial-in-number: 1-602-580-9612

Access Code: 6914064

LUNCH -N- LEARN

You're invited to join us in a fascinating Lunch-n-Learn program on Thursday, October 20 at 11:30am. Our special guest will be Jim Muffett, founder and president of Citizens for Traditional Values (CTV). Jim is a husband of 41 years, father of five, grandfather of three and a former pastor. Please see the full page invitation at the end of this newsletter.

FALL HARVEST

Fall is upon us and what is fall about besides football games, falling leaves, trick or treaters, and apple cider?? Ask any farmer and they will tell you it's about the harvest! I don't think there is a farmer among our membership, but we all are called to be harvesters of people! Jesus said, “Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest.” (John 4:35 NASB) I particularly like the Message's translation, “Well, I'm telling you to open your eyes and take a good look at what's right in front of you.” God is asking us to take part in a fall harvest!

So, on Saturday, October 29 we'll continue the work of “bringing in the sheaves.” We will work in a subdivision that's right in front of us (actually, right down the street from the church). This is not the job of our Pastor, the Elders, or the Deacons! It is the job of the Pastor, the Elders, the Deacons, **AND** all of us! Together, we are His church and we have a work (His work) to do! “He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few (Matthew 9:37, The Message).” Yes, we are few, but together we can make a mighty difference for the Kingdom if we just step out of our comfort zones and become harvesters!

So, let's go, church! We need every able-bodied person to sign up to walk the Old Farm Estates subdivision. **And** we need every able-bodied (non-walking) driver to do the same. Please sign up by October 4th so that routes can be thoughtfully mapped out. Routes will be given out when we meet at the church on the 10th at 10am.

Verse 38 of Matthew 9 says, “Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” It is time for us to answer that call.

JOYFUL NOISE OFFERINGS

The Joyful Noise Offering for this month continues to be raised for the Grand Rapids based ministry known as WAR (Women at Risk).

Women at Risk, International (WAR Int'l) is a Michigan based, 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization established to create circles of protection around those at risk. Through culturally sensitive, value-added intervention projects and partnerships, we provide safe places to heal from abuse, trafficking, exploitation, and more. Our passion is to empower survivors to live and work with dignity and hope.

Our programs and partnerships span the globe reaching over 40 countries, including the United States. Each month, additional projects and partnerships are formed, increasing our ability to offer the rescued and at-risk a "hand-up" instead of a handout.

Women at Risk, International unites and educates to create circles of protection around those at risk through culturally sensitive, value-added intervention projects.

For more information or to contact us directly we can be reached Monday-Friday (8am-5pm EST) by calling: (616) 855-0796 or toll free: (877) END-SLAVERY (363-7528). And please visit our shop and coffee house at 2790 44th Street in Wyoming, Michigan

HYMN SING AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Back by popular demand! We will hold our third Hymn-Sing and Ice Cream social on Sunday, October 2nd at 5:00pm. Come join us as Marjorie plays some of our favorite hymns. Afterward we'll fellowship together over ice cream with all the fix'ins.

This is a perfect opportunity to share our faith and love by inviting your friends, neighbors and/or family members. For more information contact Pastor Mike.

WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBER

Mercy Kamau was born and raised in Kenya. She has two daughters and a son who are all now grown adults and live in Kenya. Both of Mercy's daughters are married while her son is still in school.

Mercy became a born-again Christian and immediately developed a love for God's Word. Her spiritual journey has been grounded in the Biblical passage that tells us, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons (children) of God." Mercy says, "I love to serve God in any way by the grace of God, especially in music ministry".

Please be sure to pray for and welcome Mercy into our family of faith as she is a gift from God to us all.



Mercy Kamau membership induction ceremony; joining our church by Reaffirmation of Faith.

Welcome to our church family, Mercy!

Lunch-n-Learn

Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church
4472 Breton Rd. SE – Kentwood, Michigan 49508
(Across the street from Horrock's Market)

The Greatest Story Never Told

James Muffett

President and Founder
Citizens for Traditional Values

Jim is a nationally recognized spokesperson for traditional family values, a statewide leader and a passionate citizen who advocates for traditional Judeo-Christian values. His perspective on how the Bible, history of our nation, and current times and future tie together to inspire everyone.

Thursday – October 20 at 11:30am

Pizza & Salad luncheon, drinks & dessert (\$5.00)

Reservation requested

RevMCB@hotmail.com

For more information contact

Mike Baynai
(616) 822-9988