

THE VOICE

April 18, 2021

3rd Sunday of Easter

WELCOME TO PORTAGE CHAPEL HILL

Beloved, we are
God's children now!

1 John 3:2



OPEN TO EVERYONE SINCE 1998

Pastor Barry Petrucci — Pastor Jess Davenport

(269) 327-6643

pchum.org

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Wisdom of Love: Here and Now

Prelude	This Is My Father's World	arr. by Vandall
Pastoral Welcome		Jess Davenport
Call To Worship		Fred Sang
Songs	Rise Up! Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)	New Life Team
Pastoral Prayer		Pat Catellier
Children's Time		Andrea Trantham
Hymn	Christ Has Broken Down the Wall	Joe Badalamenti
Scripture	1 John 3:1-7	
Message	Here and Now	Jess Davenport
Offering & Special Music	The Gift of Love	Andy Johnson
Dedication		
Hymn	Be Thou My Vision	
Closing Liturgy		
Song	Can We Walk Upon the Water	
Blessing		
Postlude	For The Beauty of the Earth	John Rutter

Portage Kids Peaceful Protests

- Every Wednesday and Sunday from Noon–1 pm
- Corner of S. Westnedge Ave. and Centre Ave. in Portage

The news continues to be filled with stories of tragedies affecting Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. These stories are so difficult to comprehend as adults, let alone for the children in our lives. Portage Kids Peaceful Protests is a great way to introduce young children to the importance of standing against racism. Every Wednesday and Sunday from Noon–1 pm this family-friendly group gathers at the corner of S. Westnedge and Centre Ave., in front of Portage City Hall, to peacefully protest racism. Bring your kids and your homemade signs and make your voices heard!

Living in an anti-racist community is important to all of us. Get involved in Portage Chapel Hill's emerging anti-racist group which meets on Zoom every Thursday night at 7 pm. Find the Zoom link at pchum.org/dismantlingracism. This group meets to discuss active and immediate steps Chapel Hill can take to be an anti-racist congregation.

COVID Vaccine Clinics

All individuals aged 16 and older living in Kalamazoo County are now eligible to receive the COVID vaccine through the Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services Department. Appointments are first-come-first-served and are released in batches **every Monday at 7 am, Noon, and 5 pm**. To make your appointment please go to kalcounty.com/hcs/covid1950plusregistration.php.

April Playdates

- All kids in Preschool–5th grade
- Wednesday, April 21
- 6–7:30 pm on the playground

Andrea Trantham is planning another opportunity for Chapel Hill kids to get together and play outside on Wednesday, April 21 at 6 pm. This event will be staffed by two Safe Place-Certified adults, so parents are welcome to drop their kids off. Face masks will be required and this event will be cancelled if there is inclement weather. Space is limited so you are asked to register. Find the registration link at pchum.org/childrenministries.

CHUM Preschool

After 50 years of history at Portage Chapel Hill Church, CHUM Co-Op Preschool has decided to come to an end. CHUM Co-Op Preschool is housed in the Chapel Hill church building on the lower level, but has operated independently from the church in recent years. Church leadership has accepted this decision from the current Board President and the current preschool Teacher/Director.

With this news comes a new opportunity for Portage Chapel Hill Church to re-imagine a progressive faith-based preschool for area families. Members of church staff are actively working to offer a preschool in the church building, under the leadership of Portage Chapel Hill Church, for the 2021-2022 school year. Much help will be needed to make this a success! If you are interested in being on a committee to start a new preschool, or if you have previous preschool or childcare expertise you can share, please send a note to the office at office@pchum.org.

Give By Mail:

Portage Chapel Hill
7028 Oakland Dr.
Portage MI 49024

Give Online:

pchum.org/give

Give On Realm:

onrealm.org/pchum

Text-To-Give:

Text "PCHUM" to
73256

You May Have Noticed...

Folks who have been around the Chapel Hill property lately may have noticed a Porta-Potty stationed in the upper parking lot. No, the church does not have any construction projects underway. The Porta-Potty has been placed there for the convenience of groups who are resuming their meetings on church grounds.

Summer Bible Study

Portage Chapel Hill will be offering a Summer Bible Study series this summer. Details are still being worked out, so keep an eye on The Voice, the weekly email, and pchum.org for more information as it becomes available.

Shrinking Chapel Hill's Carbon Footprint

During the last year, we all noted the amazing "physical plant" work we have been able to do even as the church building has been mostly on COVID Shut-Down. New sewage connection, new parking lots, new roof, new carpeting in the office areas and now moving downstairs into the Christian education rooms.

Over the years we have had a number of analyses around energy efficiency and changes that we might make to become less carbon-dependent. So, I asked long time Chapel Hillian and Maintenance Custodian John Ruhrup to tell me how we are doing on shrinking the carbon footprint of Chapel Hill. His response:

Since April of 2017 we have made the following energy efficient upgrades:

- *Seven furnace/air conditioners have been replaced. The furnaces have variable speed blowers that match the fan speed to the heating & cooling load. The air conditioners are higher efficiency and use an environmentally friendlier refrigerant.*
- *One air conditioner on the west side has been replaced with a mini split that allows for individual room temperature control.*
- *Furnace thermostats have been replaced with WIFI connectable units.*
- *Narthex (lobby) and Sanctuary lighting has been converted to LED, replacing 500 watt halogen bulbs with 30 watt LEDs.*
- *The office and Food Pantry lighting is being converted to LED.*
- *The church sewer connection has been converted to gravity, eliminating the use of pumps.*

Not a bad effort!

Indeed, John, not a bad effort! Kudos to the Facilities Team led by Dan Janecke, and to John Ruhrup for continually considering replacements and upgrades that benefit our stewardship of the earth. It is another place where our faith makes a difference in helping to bring about God's Kin-dom on Earth!

Have ideas for shrinking Portage Chapel Hill's Carbon Footprint? Send a note to office@pchum.org and we will get it where it needs to go!

