

THE VOICE

May 2, 2021

5th Sunday of Easter

WELCOME TO PORTAGE CHAPEL HILL

We love God because
God first loved us.



OPEN TO EVERYONE SINCE 1998

Pastor Barry Petrucci — Pastor Jess Davenport

(269) 327-6643

pchum.org

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Wisdom of Love: A Banner Over Me

Prelude	Andante	Schubert
Pastoral Welcome		Jess Davenport
Call To Worship		Tonya Boot
Songs	Hallelujah	New Life Team
	10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)	
Pastoral Prayer		Donna Keyte
Children's Time		Andrea Trantham
Hymn	Gather Us In	
Scripture	1 John 4:7-21	
Message	A Banner Over Me	Barry Petrucci
Offering & Special Music	The Father's Love	Marysol Millar & Darlene Sang
Dedication		
Hymn	Love Divine All Loves Excelling	
Closing Liturgy		
Song	I'll Fly Away	
Blessing		
Postlude	Impromptu	Schubert

Outdoor Worship Service with Communion

- Sunday May 2 at 6 pm

As the weather is improving and Portage Chapel Hill Church's Guidance Board has approved outdoor, masked, socially distant gatherings, the church is going to offer a time of outdoor worship once a month this spring and summer. The first of these outdoor worship services will be on Sunday, May 2 at 6 pm in the Memorial Garden, on the East side of the church building. This time of worship will include the sacrament of communion, songs led with guitar, a time of prayer, and devotion. We'll be moving our time of communion to this outdoor worship experience, instead of during the Sunday morning livestream worship, as we hold the power and significance of communion when shared with the gathered body whenever possible. You are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket.

Sunday Night Youth Group

- Sundays beginning May 2 from 7–8:30 pm
- All youth in grades 6-12

Sunday Night Youth Group is back! All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to come to the church on Sunday nights beginning May 2 from 7-8:30 pm for an outdoor "play date" for older kids. Sunday Night Youth Group will happen each Sunday in May and June, with the exception of May 30, weather-permitting. If there is a 40% chance of rain at Noon on Sunday then that night's Youth Group will be cancelled. Face masks will be required. If you have any questions about Sunday Night Youth Group please contact Pastor Jess at jessdavenport@pchum.org.

Summer Bible Study

Portage Chapel Hill will be offering a Summer Bible Study series this summer. Children, Youth, and Adults are all welcome to get involved. 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.

May Kids' Playdates

- Thursday, May 13
- Monday, May 24
- 6-7:30 pm on the playground

All kids in Preschool–4th grade are invited to come play with old friends and make new ones! These playdates are supervised by two Safe Place Certified adults so parents are welcome to drop their kiddos off. Space is limited and registration is required. Please visit pchum.org/childrenministries to register.

CHUM Co-Op Preschool

Portage Chapel Hill Church is currently developing a progressive faith-based preschool for area families, to take the place of CHUM Co-Op Preschool, for the 2021-2022 school year. CHUM Preschool, which has operated out of the Chapel Hill building for 50 years, has decided to end after the current school year. Chapel Hill leadership see this as an opportunity to reimagine what an inclusive and faith-based preschool might look like. A team of individuals from the staff and the congregation is being put together to make this a reality.

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

Take A Stand Against Voter Suppression

Interfaith Strategy for Advocacy and Action in the Community (ISAAC) encourages everyone to reach out to your representatives in the federal government and tell them not to support efforts to suppress the rights of voters in America. Please visit pchum.org/dismantlingracism to find links to letters to Rep. Fred Upton, Sen. Debbie Stabenow, and Sen. Gary Peters. Portage Chapel Hill Church is a member of ISAAC.

Portage Kids Peaceful Protests

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

Join Pastor Barry and other members of the Portage area community at Noon each Sunday at the corner of S. Westnedge Ave. and Centre Ave. to demonstrate for justice. Portage Kids Peaceful Protests is an opportunity for people of all ages to take a stand against racism and injustice in our society. Every Wednesday and Sunday from Noon–1 pm this family-friendly group gathers to peacefully demonstrate. 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.

Refugee Family Update

In February 2020 Portage Chapel Hill Church, along with Bethany Christian Services, sponsored a family of six to settle in the Kalamazoo area after years of living in refugee camps in Iran, Afghanistan, and Turkey.

Here is a quick update on how they're doing:

- The eldest son continues to take classes at KVCC in auto mechanics and has a job doing car repairs.
- The younger son has moved to Boston. He's living with a friend and working in a restaurant.
- The eldest daughter is working full-time in a factory that makes parts for car dashboards. She continues taking classes at Kalamazoo Covenant Academy in order to finish getting a high school diploma.
- In addition to their studies at Milwood Middle School the twin girls are being tutored an hour each day by a dedicated group of people from Chapel Hill Church. They learn everyday living vocabulary, comprehension, and are encouraged to ask questions. Their tutors find them to be charming children and hard workers.
- Mom and Grandma have both had their vaccine shots. Mom keeps busy by sewing clothes for herself and her family. Grandma likes to sit on the front porch while she connects with her friends in Europe and Afghanistan by phone.

If you would like to know more about Chapel Hill's work with refugee and asylum-seeking families, please contact Refugee Resettlement Team co-chairs Susan Smith (sjs426@outlook.com) or Pat Catellier (pcatellier7711@charter.net). You may also contact the Chair of Chapel Hill's Faith In Action Team Richard Derenne at richard.derenne@stryker.com.