

# THE VOICE

Weekly Newsletter 8-30-20 13th Sunday After Pentecost

## WELCOME TO PORTAGE CHAPEL HILL

“You have heard  
that it was said,  
'An eye for an eye  
and a tooth for a tooth.'  
But I say to you...”

*Matthew 5:38*



**OPEN TO EVERYONE SINCE 1998**

Pastor Barry Petrucci — Pastor Jess Davenport

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
(269) 327-6643 [pchum.org](http://pchum.org)

# AUGUST 30, 2020

13th Sunday After Pentecost - 10 a.m.

## Forgiveness & Accountability

Welcome & Announcements		Jess Davenport
Prelude	It's Me, Oh Lord	Spiritual/Traditional
Gathering Prayer		Lisa Drzick
Songs	Glory to Glory Heart of worship	New Life Team
call To worship...Pastoral Prayer		Barry Petrucci
children's Time		Andrea Trantham
Hymn	christ Your words of Love confound us	
Scripture	Matthew 5:38-41	
Message	Loving Our Enemies	Jess Davenport
	what we've gotten wrong about Forgiveness & Turning the other cheek	
Special Music Offering	When You Believe	Kitty Clark
Dedication		
Hymn	Because He Lives	
closing Liturgy		
Song	old church choir	
Sending		
Postlude	A Gaelic Blessing	by John Rutter

## Blessing of the Backpacks

- Sunday, August 30 at Noon
- Lower Parking Lot

We hope to see all school-aged kids for Portage Chapel Hill's Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, August 30 at Noon in the lower parking lot of the church. This will be a drive-up, socially distanced event. Bring your kids and their backpacks to receive a small token and a blessing for the new school year.

## Help Wanted!

Chapel Hill is in need of a temporary custodian to do general cleaning and disinfecting of church facilities beginning September 7. The anticipated end date is October 30, though there is possibility for a longer term. Hours would be up to 20 per week. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Pastor Barry at [barrypetrucci@pchum.org](mailto:barrypetrucci@pchum.org) or by telephone at (269) 327-6643, ext. 107.

## Save the Date: October Blood Drive

- Saturday, October 3
- 10:15 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Mark your calendars now for Chapel Hill's October Blood Drive, sponsored by the American Red Cross. Contact Blood Drive Coordinator Sue Dueweke at [suzydue@sbcglobal.net](mailto:suzydue@sbcglobal.net) if you would like to volunteer to work at the event. To make an appointment to donate blood, please go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code "CHUM."

## Virtual Walk to D.C. for Racial Justice

- Runs through Sunday, September 20

Portage Chapel Hill, along with ISAAC (Interfaith Strategy for Advocacy & Action in the Community), encourages everyone to get out and walk, run, or roll to raise awareness for racial justice. For many People of Color, simply going outside to take a walk or a run in their neighborhood is not a safe activity. You can help raise awareness of racial inequities by going to [walk.isaackalamazoo.org](http://walk.isaackalamazoo.org) and logging your miles; while you're there you'll find inspirational videos, music playlists, and more that will help keep you motivated on the journey.

Chapel Hill wants everyone to be involved in local and national efforts to Dismantle Racism. For more ideas of what you can do please visit [pchum.org/dismantlingracism](http://pchum.org/dismantlingracism).

## The Trouble with Online Worship

The office staff of Portage Chapel Hill Church has heard from a number of folks who have expressed frustration in finding the worship services online. When the COVID-19 pandemic began in early March, Chapel Hill moved to online worship using Facebook — a *no-cost* alternative that enabled the worship team to continue to provide a weekly worship experience. Recognizing that online worship is here to stay, Chapel Hill has a team of volunteers currently working on making access to our worship videos easier for everyone. As this involves significant time and expense, we ask for your continued patience.

### Give By Mail:

Portage Chapel Hill  
7028 Oakland Dr.  
Portage MI 49024

### Give Online:

[pchum.org/give](http://pchum.org/give)

### Give On Realm:

[onrealm.org/pchum](http://onrealm.org/pchum)

### Text-To-Give:

Text "PCHUM" to  
73256

## Virtual Communion

The first Sunday of the month is quickly approaching and we are again going to celebrate the sacrament of Communion in worship. Portage Chapel Hill Church will be providing "to-go" items for the Communion elements available at the church. They will have individually sealed crackers and a sealed container of grape juice (we are unable to provide a gluten-free option at this time). These elements have been prayed over by Pastor Barry and Pastor Jess, blessed as ordinary elements set apart for the use of communion in worship Sunday. Please note: they have not been consecrated as a part of Communion; that will happen as part of the worship service.

You may stop by the church to pick up juice and crackers next week in preparation for worship on September 6. We ask that you take one container of juice and one package of crackers per household.

Pick-up times are:

- Thursday, September 3 from 5–7 p.m.
- Friday, September 4 from 9 a.m.—Noon
- Saturday, September 5 from 11 a.m.—2 p.m.
- Sunday, September 6 after 8 a.m.

If you are unable to stop by the church, you may pick up grape juice and bread on your own and share the elements at home at the appointed time in the service. Please feel free to reach out with questions or concerns.

### Growing your faith.....from Director of Discipleship Tonya Boot

Two years ago, I took on the job of Director of Discipleship. What a scary transition to close a successful business caring for little ones and then take on a job caring for the faith of adults, called to grow that faith. There were so many questions and so many unknowns...not unlike right now!

In those two years I have learned so much, a lot of it fun to be sure, but much more required me to step out of my comfort zone and step into my faith, realizing and embracing the fact that God called me to this place and would not abandon me. Leading book studies and small groups, Discipleship classes, and worship, I love being part of it all. And, who knew even six months ago that I would post a weekly devotional video on Facebook somewhat willingly...not me! That is how God works in our lives, though. God gives us opportunities to challenge us, to grow our faith, to grow our relationship with God.

This pandemic has required so many of us to learn how to do new things. Growing your faith has required some creativity. Trying out new technology for a Zoom small group meeting, Zoom Bible study, or finding the Livestream of Sunday Worship on Facebook has been a challenge. But in the end, after facing the challenge, after hearing a sermon message that is speaking directly to you, after making connections on Zoom, you realize God had your back. God was right there helping you through the challenge. Your faith grew through those challenges. Your faith grew making those connections!

So, I ask you, what do you need this fall? What connections are you missing? What do you think growing your faith amidst this pandemic might look like for you? Is there something you would like to try that I can help you get started? Feel free to reach out to me at [tonyaboot@pchum.org](mailto:tonyaboot@pchum.org) or call me in the office at (269) 327-6643.

Your church community is still here, moving forward, trying new things, and most importantly surrounding you with love!