

THE CHANIER



Ongoing Prayer Concerns

- Bev Stewart
- Nevin Johnson, Betts' grandson with chronic kidney disease
- Lois Schmidt
- Don Moore, Peggy Hadwin's brother with lymphatic cancer
- Priscilla Krohnke & BK Gopal
- Ken Gibler, Jane DiMaggio's brother with brain cancer
- Wilma & Jayna Akright
- Harriet Anthony with congestive heart failure
- Verla Miller
- Maung Zaw in the hospital with Covid
- Ernie Snyder's daughter Bonnie who has cancer
- Anita Betts' daughter and son-in-law (Robin and Kevin) as Kevin begins treatment for lung cancer

Prayer Requests from the Chat Pew on April 11

- Brandy and Jo
- Prayers for hope
- Deb's mom Gladys in Florida facing health issues
- Bill, William, Steve and Ciney
- Norm, Kris, Myra and all those struggling with health problems
- Healing for Barry's brother in the hospital in Florida with low oxygen levels
- Our state as we experience another COVID surge here
- Robin & Kevin (Anita Betts' daughter and son-in-law) waiting for Kevin's biopsy and seeking wisdom to decide on cancer treatments
- Scientists developing a vaccine for those allergic to the current one
- Gopal needing to find a neurologist to treat his intense leg pains
- Thanksgiving that Robert's aunt Anna survived COVID as she cared for his uncle who died with many of his own health issues
- The Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering this coming Saturday
- Thanksgiving for Marcia Howe's sister's 77th birthday on April 17
- The Horstman family as they mourn Jack's death due to Covid
- Strength for loved ones near and far, for our church members and for our pastors

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

On April 20 last year, I announced that I had stage 4 malignant melanoma and asked for your prayers as I launched into the unknown of dealing with cancer. Specifically, my letter said:

For those of you who would like to add me to your prayer list (and I appreciate you in advance!), please pray as the Spirit leads you or consider my personal prayers:

- **That the side effects will be manageable and allow me to continue with my ministries**
- **That I will experience God's Presence in a way that is ever-deepening, ever-peaceful, ever joyful, ever-sanctifying, ever-glorifying!**

Without question, God answered our prayers in ways that went far beyond what we could ask for or imagine (side effects and a 3-month leave of absence aside), and my last PET, CT and MRI scans showed NO active tumors anywhere! The cancer is still roaming around in my lymph nodes somewhere (on a microscopic-level) but, by God's grace, I'm well and able to transition back to work!

Thank you so much for your faithfulness in prayer. In every one of my weakest moments, dwelling in the shelter of God's wings, the breath of your prayers was an updraft 😊 In Christ, Myra

In life and in death, we belong to God...

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

(from A Brief Statement of Faith, II.1 & II.5)

WITH FAITH IN THE RESURRECTION, we grieve with the families of Carl Westerhof and Scott Harvey (Deb Reid's husband), after both men entered the Church Triumphant last week (their obituaries are below). Because of Covid restrictions, we may not be able to support the families in person, but our prayer support during this time is more than adequate to surround them with the love of Christ.

CARL RICHARD WESTERHOF, age 90, of Holt, called to his eternal home on April 11, 2021. He is enjoying



unlimited ice cream and peanuts in his heavenly home.

Carl was born November 21, 1930, in Grand Haven, to the late Elmer J. and Margaret (Salisbury) Westerhof. He graduated from Grand Haven High School. After proposing on the Grand Haven City Beach, he married Dorothy Ann Sheffield on March 26, 1953. They recently celebrated their 68th Anniversary.

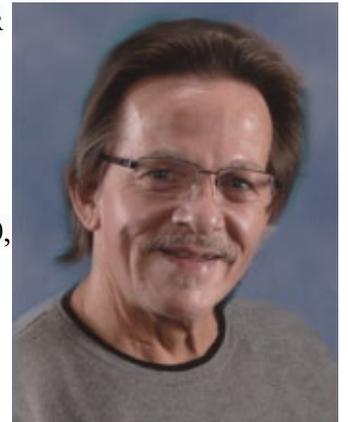
Carl worked at Diamond Reo and retired from the East Lansing Post Office after 26 years. For a second job, if you call it that, he worked all the home MSU football, hockey and basketball games for over 50 years, witnessing several victories and championships. He was an avid Spartan fan!

Carl was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Holt for over 50 years. He enjoyed spending time with his family, working in his garden, camping, walking the Grand Haven Boardwalk and making apple cider. He, along with his father and sons, built a cider press and every fall, they made and gave away gallons of cider.

Carl is survived by his wife, Dorothy; children, Richard (Mary Kay) of Mason, Donald (Carol) of White Heath, IL, and Marikay (Kurt) Teremi of Lansing. He is also survived by five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, Sarah (Jeff) Backerman, Matthew (Jen) Westerhof, Leanna (Kurtis) Duemler, Samantha Teremi, Kendal Westerhof, Emma and Mason Backerman; and sister-in-law, Pat Westerhof. Carl was preceded in death by his brother, Elmer in 2018.

A celebration of his life with his family will take place at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church of Holt.

SCOTT R. HARVEY, OUR LOVING HUSBAND AND FATHER passed away on Sunday, April 11, 2021 at the age of 63.



Scott was born on Dec. 10, 1957, son of the late Patricia (Pucklus) and Harold Harvey, in Fort Benning, Georgia.

He married Deborah Reid on May 9, 1992. She survives him. Scott had been employed by McLaren Greater Lansing Hospital with over 20 years of service. He was an avid University of Michigan Sports Fan, enjoyed fishing and caring for his dogs. He loved spending time with his family, staying at the cottage and being anywhere near the water. Scott will be remembered for his kind spirit, being an animal lover, his great sense of humor and the love for listening to music.

Scott will be missed by his wife, Deborah Reid; daughters, Kristina (Doug) Bouffard, Melissa and Laura Harvey; father-in-law, Sam Reid; brother-in-law, Scott Reid; Wanda Barner, who loved him as a son, the Barner family and his fishing buddy, Ray Sohn; his step-sisters, Jeanne Farrell and Claudia O'Green. He was predeceased by his step-father, Markham Farrell and mother-in-law, Laura Reid. The family would like to extend their appreciation to McLaren Greater Lansing Emergency Department Staff, Dr. "Ted" Wulfekuhler and Mike Piasecki PA.

Funeral services were held on Friday, April 16, 2021, at W. L. Case and Company in Saginaw, with Rev. Ben Rumbaugh officiating.



NEXT SUNDAY AT 3PM: THE SIN OF RACISM

Last day to register is April 21 – [click here to sign up now!](#)

Join us next Sunday at 3pm* for a Zoom gathering to discuss “The Sin of Racism,” a statement passed by the General Assembly last year and now being considered for vote by all the presbyteries in our denomination.

The Presbytery of Lake Michigan is hosting 3 sessions to receive input from its churches as they discern whether or not this statement will be formally adopted at the presbytery’s next meeting in June.

Given FPC-Holt’s own statement on racial justice ([click here to view](#)), Kirk and Ben would like us to discuss “The Sin of Racism” statement ([click here to view](#)) as part of our congregational fellowship check-in after worship next week. Then, at 3pm next Sunday, we’re all invited to join in the larger discussion of the statement with our sisters and brothers from throughout the presbytery.

This is an important opportunity for fellowship and discernment as we continue to commit ourselves to reflecting God’s love for every person, no matter their race, and being disciples in God’s Beloved Community. Please join us!

*The Presbytery will also hold the same discussion on April 27 at noon and April 28 at 7pm. Regardless of which date works best for you, pre-registration with the link above is required by April 21!

UP YOUR PERSONAL COOL FACTOR!

We’re looking for people to join our Sunday morning livestream production team on a rotating basis!

You’ll be trained to run our new camera system (4 cameras = lots of joystick action) and given an opportunity to let your creativity shine -- maybe a chance to put Ben’s head on Kirk’s body (just kidding on that one!)

We’re looking for folks with interest/experience in computers, (including gaming!) creative expression and a desire to produce a livestream worship of glory to God! Contact Penny (office@fpc-holt.org) if you’re interested and we’ll be in touch!

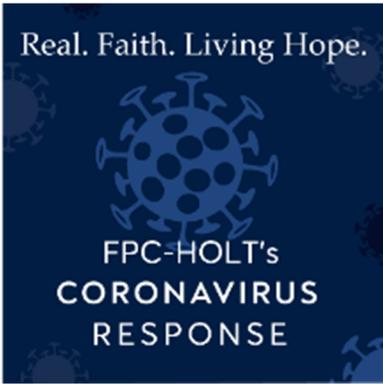
HATS OFF TO THE GRADS!

If you’re graduating from high school, trade school, college, training camp or reaching any other certification milestone, we want to know!

Graduation Sunday (June 6 this year) is a special time for our church family to thank God for the lives and accomplishments of our graduates and to assure them of our loving support as they move into the future.

To make sure we have the names of all our graduates, we’re asking for help from family members and friends. Even if you think they must be in the church database, please send an email to the office, [click here](#) or give us a call to pass on the name.

Thank you!



WE REMEMBER, WE HONOR, WE CELEBRATE

Have you noticed how the doves at the bell tower resemble festive pennants waving in the wind? Kind of like the cheering cloud of witnesses who have gone before us...

Each dove represents 1,000 lives, and each dove is an open canvas for honoring someone who has died from Covid. Anyone (from anywhere) can add to the memorial by filling out [the form at this link](#). We will inscribe the person's name and birth/death date on one side of the dove and 3 words that capture the spirit of that person's life on the other. This mini-bio will then join the pennants in the celebration of life everlasting!

RESPONDING TO CORONAVIRUS VEIN-BY-VEIN

Eat your Wheaties and plan to give blood during the next drive on April 26.

The Red Cross is so very appreciative of our support (they consistently fill up their donation slots when the drives are in our Fellowship Hall).

If you would like to fill up a timeslot yourself, [simply click here!](#)



BROWN BAGS & HOMELESS BLESSINGS

One of our responses to the Covid crisis is supporting the Advent House as they minister to the homeless in our community. And all it takes is a dozen or so packed lunches on a weekly or monthly basis.

(HUGE thanks to those of you packers who have faithfully kept this ministry going for the last year!)

If you would like to join the team, bring non-refrigerated lunches (e.g. PB & J, fruit, snack, cookie) to the Holt Rd. entrance between 9 and 11 am on Tuesdays. Volunteers then take them downtown and deliver lunch to our brothers and sisters served by the Advent House.

As practical as this ministry is, we also want to deliver spiritual blessings to those who may eat the lunches. Much like the Prayer Shawl Ministry prays over the stitches, lunch bag packers can pray over the swipe of peanut butter on the bread or the selection of an apple at the grocery store. To help you get started, [please click here to check out our "Guide to the Prayerful Discipline of the Lunch Bag Brigade."](#)

THIS WEEK AT FPC-HOLT

NOTE: Zoom and YouTube meeting info/links can be found on the church calendar at www.fpc-holt.org

Sunday 9:45am Waterworks! on Zoom
Apr. 18 10:30am Livestream Worship on YouTube
 11:30am Church Family Check-In on Zoom

Monday OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAYS
Apr. 19

Tuesday 7:30pm Circle 2 on Zoom
Apr. 20

Wednesday 6:00pm Session Meeting on Zoom
Apr. 21

Thursday 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal on Zoom
Apr. 22

Friday
Apr. 23

Sunday 9:45am WaterWorks! or Worship Center on Zoom
Apr. 25 10:30am Livestream Worship on YouTube
 3:00pm Presbytery Webinar: "The Sin of Racism"