



**December 2018**

# The Connection

**Tawas Area Presbyterian Church**  
**2095 E. U.S. Hwy 23, East Tawas, MI 48730**



*Pastor  
Kathleen Rowe*



## **ADVENT Greetings Family and Friends of TAPC**

We are off and running to our Christmas festivities in the name of Jesus. WAIT! WHAT? Running pastor? Did you say running? Yes, I did say running. That's what I see all around me this year. Deacons running to do care cards as well as their own family preparations. Every able-bodied baker is running for ingredients to bake dozens of cookies for our cookie walk. Worship and Music is scurrying around to get the old and new decorations ready to put up on Friday November 30th. Kristy and I are running into each other as we plan the Advent Bible study and Begin preparations for our Special Christmas Eve service. Did all this reading about running make you tired also? And I didn't even mention your own preparations for Christmas this season.

That's why we have advent! GOD'S version of preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. It is time to take a breath, pause, remember WHY and WHAT we are really preparing for. In all your running and wrapping you must include time to sit quietly with God and ask for the grace to focus on "The reason for the season". It will make such a difference in your preparation. Focusing on remembering the ultimate gift to all of us; God's son coming to forgive, restore and enable us to share life eternal. This gift can't be baked or bought, it can only be freely given by God.

As I think of all of you this season, I am overwhelmed with how loving and generous you have been to the body of Christ here AND how loving and generous you have been to our community in need. You have truly been the hands and feet of Jesus here. Hale Fish, the baby pantry, coats for kids, Toys for Tots, the Tawas Area Ministerial Association, bell ringers for the Salvation Army, the cookie walk to support our mission work, our shut-ins, Huron Shores Community Choir, and more that I probably missed. I have so much gratitude for all of you that have stepped up and OUT in love. You are an amazing people in the body of Christ. So, this Advent, take time to rest in the peace of God and enjoy the gifts given to you. Church, you use them well!

God's peace and Jesus love to you this season, celebrate the new born king!

With you in ministry here in this lovely place,

*Pastor Kathleen*



### **Tawas Area Presbyterian Church Mission Statement**

*To commit to God's guidance and passionately share God's love with people of all ages.*



12/04 10:30am	Prayer Shawl Ministry
12/04 1:00pm	Outreach/Events
12/06 12:00pm	Brown Bag Lunch and Advent Bible Study
12/07 2:00pm	Cookie Walk Set-Up
12/08 9:00am	Annual Cookie Walk
12/09 3:00pm	Huron Shores Chorus Concert
12/10 8:00am	Mens Fellowship Breakfast at Big Boy
12/10 9:00am	Facilities
12/11 10:00am	Personnel Committee Meeting
12/11 4:00pm	Stewardship/Finance
12/13 12:00pm	Brown Bag Lunch and Advent Bible Study
12/13 1:30pm	Worship Music and Education
12/14 9:00am	Bell Ringers at Neimans
12/19 4:30pm	Session
12/24 7:00pm	Christmas Eve Service
12/25	<i>Christmas Day-Office Closed</i>
12/30 10:00am	Lessons and Carols Service



Office Closed:  
December  
25th and  
January 1st

Pastor Kathleen and Kristy Prentiss  
will be away December 25th-January 4th.

## Happy Birthday!

- 12/02 Paul Hamilton
- 12/03 Diane Loch
- 12/03 Shirley MacLeod
- 12/03 Jeryka Trickey
- 12/09 Kate Cornack
- 12/09 Logan Gould
- 12/12 BJ Neuenfeldt
- 12/13 Chuck Reddick
- 12/13 Holly Little
- 12/16 Ken Douglas
- 12/19 Rachel Haviland
- 12/21 Phil MacLeod
- 12/25 Dick Blomberg

## Happy Anniversary!

- 12/22 Jerry & Paula Horcha
- 12/31 Dean & Mary Adams

### Scheduling Note for our choir

The last practice will be December 19th and then we will be continuing in the spring before Easter.

### Advent Bible Study

For the advent season Pastor Kathleen will be leading a three week bible study. The title is Jesus is coming. This is a brown bag lunch, so bring your own lunch and the church will provide the drinks. The bible study continues and the dates are December 6th and December 13th at 12:00pm.

## Purchase A Poinsettia

You are invited to help us decorate our TAPC sanctuary by donating a Poinsettia Plant or Plants "In Memory" or "In Honor" of someone you wish to recognize. Please place your poinsettia plant order by completing the information on the special CHRISTMAS FLOWER ORDER ENVELOPE found in the pew racks or in the baskets in the server-y.

Poinsettia plants are **\$15.00 each.** (Do not put in offering plates.)

Please place your completed order-envelope in the special baskets found in the server-y or at the entrance to the Sanctuary. Make checks payable to TAPC for the full amount, **no later than Sunday, December 9th.** If you mail your orders, please make sure the office receives them by December 9th.

Outreach and Events Committee will again be supporting Iosco County Toys for Tots during the Christmas season, This is a very worthwhile mission and there are many needy children who will not have a Christmas if we do not step up. Please bring NEW, UNWRAPPED toys to the church. There will be a Toys for Tots box in the parlor for donations. The appropriate age group is birth to 16 years of age. All donated toys and money must be at the church by 3:00pm, SUNDAY DECEMBER 9TH. Donations of money are also accepted. Clearly mark on the envelope that the donation is for Toys for Tots.



## Bell Ringing for Salvation Army

Once again, TAPC has been asked to ring the bells for the Salvation Army. What a great way to serve our church and our community!

Bell ringers are needed for Friday December 14 for two-hour shifts. It takes place at Neiman's Market in their vestibule. If you'd like to help, just find the sign up sheet in the server-y and pick a time.



**We need help for the New Year. Please sign up today.**

It's Fun and Easy

Set up, clean up, or host  
a Coffee Hour.

We'll show you how!

## *In Our Thoughts and Prayers ...*

### Our Shut-in:

Ruth Perrigo, Edie Moore, Jim Leisher, Mary Wenzel,  
Bill Nelson

### Mission Co-Workers

**Rev. Cathy Chang & family**, serving in Philippines.

**Michael & Rachel Ludwig**, serving in Niger.

*I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to  
walk in my statutes. - Ezekiel 36:27*

### **Grief Support Program**

St. Joseph Health System provides a variety of Grief Support services for patients, families, employees and members of the community. Grief Support groups are held monthly on Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:30 pm at SJHS in Classroom C.

These groups provide support and information for anyone whose life has been disrupted by a significant loss due to the death of a loved one. Sessions are facilitated by a qualified member of the Spiritual Care Team. There is no fee, however advance registration is appreciated.

To register, call 362-9368 and talk with the Chaplain.



## **Caregiver Conversation Hour**

The Caregiver Conversation Hour will continue back in January. The response was overwhelming when we had special guest speaker Betty Clark. Betty has offered to help with the class. We will be inviting the community to join us.

## **Get ready for the Cookie Walk**

Attention all bakers: Now is the time to think about what cookies you will be baking for the "Christmas Cookie Walk." The Cookie Walk is slated for Saturday, December 8th, from 9:00am-12:00pm. We will need bakers, helpers and volunteers to work that Saturday. Your help is needed to make this a success. Sign up sheets and flyers are in the servery. Contact Judy or Mike Crain if you have any questions.



*Christmas Eve*

*Candle Light*

*Service* **Monday,  
December 24<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 p.m.**

Please bring family and friends to the service with you

## Tech Team Members Needed

As winter approaches and many congregation members head south for the next few months, we once again send out a request for people to help our Tech Team.

The audio and video operations are an important part of our service and even one or two new people would help with the workload rotation.

The jobs are much simpler than you might think; most of it just involves pressing a button throughout the service. If you can send an email or post on Facebook, you have more than enough skills to do the work. Training for the jobs takes about 15 minutes.

You would commit to one Sunday a month throughout the winter. You decide which Sundays you want to work.

If you are interested, talk to Kristy Prentiss. She would be glad to show you what the job entails, with no pressure. You can look it over and decide if you want to try it.

### Per Capita 2019

Each year, as part of being members of the Presbyterian Church (USA), we are responsible for the annual **Per Capita**. This is a set amount that the church pays for each member (not household but every member). The 2019 Per Capita rate will be **\$28.77 per member** multiplied by the number of members we have. What we would ask, for those who are able, to consider making this extra contribution to cover this cost.

This entire Per Capita is something we have to pay whether extra giving comes in or not. Your prayerful consideration of this extra gift is greatly appreciated. Deadline for per capita is January 30, 2019.

#### Per Capita Breakdown:

**Presbytery \$16.57; Synod \$3.25;  
General Assembly \$8.95.**

### Connection Changes

New changes are coming to The Connection January 2019. We will start a bi-monthly newsletter. The 2019 submission dates are as followed:

January/February	December 19
March/April	February 20
May/June	April 24
July/August	June 19
September/October	August 21
November/December	October 23

## Prayer Shawl Ministry News

Changes coming to the Prayer Shawl Ministry. We will be meeting once a month. We will be meeting the first Tuesday of the month at 10:30am. We are open to anyone who can knit and crochet to join our group. We are getting ready to start a couple new projects for the hospital. Starting in January we will be crocheting and knitting cancer caps for people who are receiving chemo treatments. A chemo cap is a hat intended for wear by a cancer patient who is losing, or has lost, his or her hair due to chemotherapy or radiation treatments. We also will be crocheting and knitting knockers for women who have had breast cancer. Knitted Knockers are special, soft, light weight breast prosthetics that are very comfortable for women who have undergone mastectomies, lumpectomies and radiation, and/ or are undergoing reconstruction. If you have any questions you can contact Kristy either by email [kristy.behm@gmail.com](mailto:kristy.behm@gmail.com) or phone 810-614-8117.



## Year End Giving

In order for you to claim a deduction for 2018 contributions we must receive your contribution by December 31st. A contribution that you make in 2019 cannot be deducted on your 2018 tax return even if the check is dated for 2018. This is so whether you actually wrote it in the new year but backdated it to this year. There is one exception - a check that is written, mailed and **postmarked in 2018** can be deducted for 2018 even if it is not received by the church until 2019. Tawas Area Presbyterian Church will be following these rules in issuing statements.

**THANK YOU** to all those who sent cards of appreciation for my ministry here with you. It is an honor and a blessing to be with you! *Love, Pastor Kathleen*

**THANK YOU** to Jan Doak for a successful Christmas Shoe Box event. Your ministry is important to us at TAPC.

**THANK YOU** to the congregation for your generous donation of diapers to the Hale Fish Baby Pantry.

**THANK YOU** to the congregation for helping with stuff a stocking for a senior.

**THANKS** for decorating the church for this Advent season.

**THANKS** to Betty Clark for heading the Caregiver Group in November. See you in January.

**THANK YOU** to the choir for signing at TAMA Thanksgiving service at Grace Lutheran. You were amazing!!





Because of your gifts ...  
We have:

- Served **240** people in worship in November 2018.

*We could not do this without your weekly offerings.  
Thank you for financially supporting your church;  
we need each and every one of you!*

Deadline for

January/  
February

Articles:

Wednesday,  
December  
19th

The Connection welcomes your contributions! Send them to Kristy's email listed below, or drop them off at her office.  
Sunday Worship 10:00 am • Nursery provided • 989-362-2371 • [www.tawaspresby.org](http://www.tawaspresby.org)

**Kathleen Rowe,**  
Pastor  
[pastorkathleen.rowe@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorkathleen.rowe@yahoo.com)

**Judie Allen,**  
Administrative Secretary  
[tapcsecretary@tawaspresby.org](mailto:tapcsecretary@tawaspresby.org)

**JoAnn Edwards,**  
Financial Secretary  
[finsecretary@tawaspresby.org](mailto:finsecretary@tawaspresby.org)

**Kristy Prentiss,**  
Media and Ministry Specialist  
[media2@tawaspresby.org](mailto:media2@tawaspresby.org)