

# THE SOURCE

Monthly Newsletter from Jackson First Presbyterian Church

December 2024

Anything which breaks through the routine of life may be the bearer of a message to the soul.  
— Bede Griffiths

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**Sat. December 7**  
10am-Noon

**Operation Deep Clean:  
Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary**

Let Jane know if you are interested  
or contact the church office!



**Free Concert! Invite a friend!**

*DIVINE ARTIST SERIES*

**CAPITAL  
CITY  
RINGERS**

*"Sounds of the Season"*

**December 7, 2024**  
4:00pm, Sanctuary - 2nd Floor



This coming Tuesday night, join us for dinner and learn about our partner charity, Love, INC



# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Potluck Fellowship Community Info

Join us on Tuesday at 5:30pm once a month for a non-profit presentation in Fellowship Hall

**Dec. 10 Topic: Love, INC**

**Youth Programs...** be the Second adult & meet the kids!



On December 15th, the children and youth will be cutting out sugar cookies and then decorating them- a few extra hands will be needed. :-)

**The sign-up sheet will be maintained by Natalie, so contact the office with your availability: 784-9175**

**See Karen Meyers or Natalie for information or find us in the kitchen on the 15th of December during and after church!**

Our new policy requires two adults to be present in each room. So, while the leader works with the kids, you can help with the activity or chat with the kids.

Fall dates available to help with young Children: December 15, 22, 29

Fall dates available to help with older Youth: December 29



**Please look for and welcome our new Christian Educators, who are students at Spring Arbor University:**

**~Keslyn Cay and Bre Daly~**



Meets this Saturday, the 1st Saturday of December!

**MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP**  
**1st & 3rd Saturdays**  
**8:30-9:30am**

**1st & 3rd Saturdays**  
**in the Small Dining Room**  
**(lower level)**



For more info, contact:



Kurt



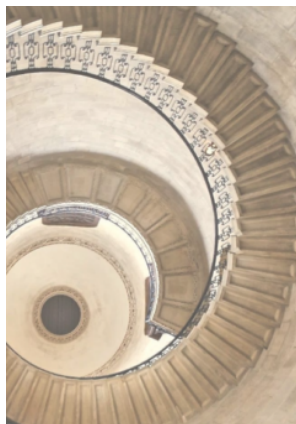
John



Randy



<http://souldig.org/wordpress/>



2 ONLINE SESSIONS  
**Create a Rhythm of Life**

January **28** LIVE ONLINE SESSION  
 January 28, Tues. at 7pm

February **11** LIVE ONLINE SESSION  
 February 11, Tues. at 7pm

**Create a Rhythm of Life – January 28 & February 11, 7pm online**

Live with intentionality. Create a personal rhythm of life with Dr. Lori Tate for 2 online sessions Tuesday, January 28 and Tuesday, February 11, 7-8:15pm EST. This interactive class will affirm the spiritual practices you already have in place and will challenge you to extend yourself to further growth.



## Children's Message Volunteers



If you are interested in doing a children's message in 2025, Please contact Doug Meyers.

COFFEE HOUR  
following worship

If you would like to host coffee hour, please sign up on the orange sheet in the Westminster room or contact the front office at 784-9175

Karen Meyers is hosting on Dec. 8.  
**Fellowship hosts needed:**

**December 15, 22, 29**

Please contact the office to sign up!

**784-9175**

[office@jacksonfirstpres.org](mailto:office@jacksonfirstpres.org)

If you need someone else to make the coffee or assist in any way, please contact the office ahead of your Sunday.



A few November revised copies of the updated church directory are available in the Narthex or see Natalie. We do NOT email these out- to prevent unwanted spam or scams to your email or phone. If you get an email or phone call from someone claiming to be Pastor David and asking for money- it is a scam. You can call him if you feel that you need to verify.

If you ever receive a request for money by email or phone from anyone, always contact the person another way to verify it is real before doing anything.

**The scams are becoming very sophisticated!**

## MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Here at JFPC, we hear God's call to care for the least of these.

The need is great in the Jackson Area, so we partner with or support a number of different ministries. We know that no one person can do it all, or support every mission opportunity we bring to you. The following is a list of some of those mission opportunities. You are invited to support or participate as you feel moved and as you are able.

### Interfaith Shelter Meals

#### DONATIONS NEEDED!

JFPC has been supporting this shelter for over 25 years, and that isn't changing anytime soon!

What has changed is the price of groceries. Additional funds are badly needed to keep cooking & serving our monthly meal at the shelter.

Donate by writing "Interfaith Meals" on your check memo or donation envelope.

Contact:  
Sharon V.



## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Do you have some extra time?

Consider being a Library volunteer at Northeast.

### Northeast Elementary Library Aids

Make a difference by serving 2 hours a week helping kids check out books and re-shelving materials in the Northeast Elementary library!



Contact  
Karen



## Community Closet at Northeast Elementary

Along with the library, JFPC is partnering with Northeast elementary to provide extra clothes, personal products, and backpacks for the students. Contact Karen Meyers with any questions!

### Why support the clothing closet?

Clothes bring dignity and allow learning to continue even when little ones have an accident at school. Please see Karen Meyers or Randy Herrick with any questions.

# NORTHEAST ELEMENTARY COMMUNITY CLOSET



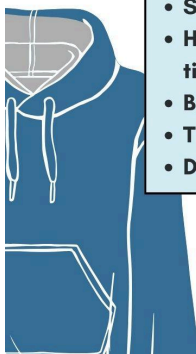
### PERSONAL CARE

- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Hair brushes, combs, hair ties
- Bar soap & body wash
- Toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Deodorant (all genders)

### CLOTHING

Sizes:  
Children 6-18  
Adult small & medium

- Socks & underwear
- Leggings
- Sweatpants/joggers
- Short & long sleeved shirts (solid colors)
- Athletic shoes
- Winter gloves, snow pants, winter boots



Contact  
Randy



## Blood Drive First Presbyterian Church

743 W. Michigan, Jackson

**Wednesday, December 18, 2024**  
**11:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.**

Sponsored by Woman's Life Insurance Society.  
To schedule an appointment, log onto [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org)  
(sponsor code: jacksonfpc) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

## Respiratory illness?

With many of our church members being over 65 (therefore higher risk for COVID or flu complications), here's the current guidance from CDC:

1. Stay home if you have respiratory illness symptoms. Stay home UNTIL your symptoms are improving AND you've had no fever for over 24 hours.
2. Once you are better and without fever, if you will be indoors with other people, wear a mask for the next 5 days.

These two steps should help protect others from catching COVID or the flu or whatever other respiratory virus we may be dealing with.

Further information is available at the CDC link below.

<https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/prevention/precautions-when-sick.html>

Lisa Rudolph, Faith Community Nurse

## Interested in giving to the mission and ministry of Jackson First Presbyterian?



Scan for Online Giving

**GIVING ONLINE**

Giving to the church helps pay for...

- Building upkeep
- Personnel
- Mission & local outreach
- Administration costs
- Disciple Development
- Music
- and more!

Go to [JacksonFirstPres.org](https://JacksonFirstPres.org) & click GIVE

The banner features a dark blue background. At the top, the words "GIVING ONLINE" are written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. Below this, there is a graphic of two white hands cupping a teal heart. To the right of the hands, a list of church expenses is provided in white text. At the bottom of the banner, a teal bar contains the text "Go to JacksonFirstPres.org & click GIVE" in white.



**ATTENTION!**

Our website address has changed slightly to

**JACKSONFIRSTPRES.ORG**



this is the part that changed

The banner features a yellow background with a black rectangular box containing the word "ATTENTION!" in bold white letters. Below this, the text "Our website address has changed slightly to" is centered. Underneath, the website address "JACKSONFIRSTPRES.ORG" is displayed in bold black letters. To the left of the address is a QR code. To the right, a blue arrow points to the ".ORG" part of the address, with the text "this is the part that changed" written in blue.

### **JACKSON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN IS ON..... YOUTUBE!**

Did you miss a Hot Dogma Sermon? You are in luck! We are serving up old sermons on our YouTube Channel.

[First Presbyterian Church of Jackson, Michigan - YouTube](#)

**Have something to share or announce at JFPC?**

Events, church initiatives, mission work, photos

**Time to contact Katie!**

The banner has a blue-to-purple gradient background. The text is white and centered. It asks if the viewer has something to share or announce at JFPC, lists examples like events, church initiatives, mission work, and photos, and encourages contacting Katie.

### **Prayers for this week**

- Blessings to Andrea and Bryan as they begin their married life together.
- Prayers for all suffering from homelessness and wars. Bring them peace and comfort.
- Prayers for Larry, Cindy, and Kay
- Prayers for my sister-in-law, Deb, who had shoulder replacement surgery this week. Prayers for patience and strength.
- Prayers for safe travels for our college students.
- Prayers for a successful colonoscopy on Tuesday.
- Prayers of healing for a niece with Crohn's disease.
- Prayers for a companion for a lonely 60 "ish" man.
- Continued prayers for Barb as she deals with terminal lung cancer.
- Traveling mercies for those on the go.
- Prayers for help in finding Dr. Qutob, a diabetic doctor.



- Prayers for Pat Riggs-Berthold, who should be back at Storypoint in Saline on Sunday, after recovering from a pacemaker implant.
- Prayers for a mother with kids.
- We pray for all the members of the groups that meet in our church, seeking to end their addictions. Please let them feel your love and grant them peace.
- Please continue to pray for all of the people in Ukraine fighting to remain a free and independent nation. Some remain hopeful but many are worn down. Lord, please give them strength.
- We pray for all the victims in Palestine and Israel, especially the children. So many have been killed.
- Please pray for peace and justice throughout the world!

**OFFICE HOURS\***

Monday -10am -2pm

Tuesday - Office Closed

Wednesday - 10am - 2pm

Thursday - 10am - 2pm

Friday - Office Closed

\*During this time of staff transitions, if you have business at the church, you might want to call ahead of time to be sure someone will be at the church.

**What is a Reverse Advent Calendar?**

Often an Advent Calendar is used to count down the days until Christmas by opening a box and discovering an ornament or something that helps you focus on the Advent journey. **A Reverse Advent Calendar focuses on giving instead of receiving** - a Christ centered idea indeed - since Christmas is all about God and giving himself to us as a baby.

**Pick out a sturdy basket, box or bag and fill it with donations.** If you follow the items listing on the calendar on the other side of this sheet you will be donating to four of First Presbyterian Church's mission projects.

**Bring your donations to church on Christmas Eve or any Sunday worship (you don't have to wait for December 24.)** There will be someone at the upper driveway door to help you unload your donations. The mission committee will sort the items and deliver them to the appropriate organizations shortly after the first of the year.

**If you are not up to collection this many items, you can make a monetary donation.** Simply put Advent Calendar on a pew envelope or in the memo field of a check. Someone will do the shopping for you.

**If you have an idea for something better to supply remember.** The list is only a suggestion and any donation is welcome!

**Hope**

**Peace**

First Presbyterian Church  
Jackson, Michigan  
[www.jacksonfirstpers.com](http://www.jacksonfirstpers.com)

**Joy**

**Love**

## Please use this giving calendar to inspire your thoughtful shopping this holiday season!

All donations will be gathered together at church and then donated to our partner charities:

The Reverse Advent supports four missions:

- ★ Immanuel Lutheran food pantry
- ★ Jackson Personal Care Ministry
- ★ NE elementary clothing closet
- ★ JFPC diaper closet

There are printed copies of this calendar at church, or you can print the file attached to this week's emailed bulletin.

| Sunday  | Monday                    | Tuesday                      | Wednesday                             | Thursday                    | Friday                                 | Saturday                 |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| November 25                                     | 25<br>kid's<br>toothbrush | 26<br>canned soup            | 27<br>box of cereal                   | 28<br>dish soap             | 29<br>peanut<br>butter                 | 30<br>fruit jam          |
| purchase a youth size gloves or mittens and hat |                           |                              |                                       |                             |  |                          |
| December 1                                      | 2<br>kid's<br>deodorant   | 3<br>dessert mix             | 4<br>applesauce                       | 5<br>diapers size<br>5 or 6 | 6<br>canned<br>vegetable               | 7<br>Christmas<br>treat  |
| purchase a youth size shirt                     |                           |                              |                                       |                             |  |                          |
| 8<br>canned fruit                               | 9<br>tooth paste          | 10<br>peanut<br>butter       | 11<br>fruit jam                       | 12<br>canned<br>tomatoes    | 13<br>paper<br>towels                  | 14<br>mac and<br>cheese  |
| purchase youth size socks                       |                           |                              |                                       |                             |  |                          |
| 15<br>canned<br>vegetable                       | 16<br>kid's<br>shampoo    | 17<br>canned fruit           | 18<br>oatmeal                         | 19<br>tomato soup           | 20<br>toilet paper                     | 21<br>box of<br>crackers |
| purchase youth size underwear                   |                           |                              |                                       |                             |  |                          |
| 22<br>tuna                                      | 23<br>kid's bath<br>soap  | 24<br>item of your<br>choice | 25<br><b>Happy Birthday<br/>Jesus</b> |                             | See other side for more<br>information |                          |

## REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

## Love INC has need of a coordinator

Please forward the job posting below to anyone who may be interested:

### Clearinghouse Coordinator Position Description

#### **Purpose**

To carry out tasks assigned by the Executive Director in operating the business of Love INC of Jackson County.

#### **Responsibilities**

1. Management of Love INC's custom database, performing quality data checks, managing volunteer profiles, and updating community and church resources.
2. Recruit, train, and schedule office and field volunteers.
3. Take phone requests from the community when necessary.
4. Manage community resources and partner church relationships
5. Love INC presentations in churches and/or community groups
6. Encourage prayer support.
7. Share and encourage others to know the mission statement and core values.

#### **Qualifications**

1. Self-motivated, willing to learn, novice computer and database skills,
2. Organized, oral, and written communication skills; open to promotion; passionate about implementing our mission.
3. Accept and sign Apostles Creed statement

#### **Training**

Training and ongoing support are provided by Love INC.

#### **Salary**

20/hours per week at \$16.25/hour.

Send your resume and cover letter to [director@loveofjackson.org](mailto:director@loveofjackson.org)