



## TUESDAY NEWS

### COMING THIS WEEK

**12/17/2025-12/23/2025**

\*If there are any changes, PLEASE notify the church office at (269) 273-9571.

Church office hours are Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – noon.

### Wednesday, December 17, 2025

9 a.m. – noon – UCAP Assistance Office- – Free Store open  
(Assistance: 244-4599 / Free Store: 535-2786)

11:00 a.m. Garden Club

4:30 p.m. Worship & Music Meeting

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir

7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir

### Thursday, December 18, 2025

6:14 p.m. Finance Meeting

### Friday, December 19, 2025

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. UCAP Assistance Office – Free Store Open

7:00 p.m. AA

### Saturday, December 20, 2025

### Sunday, December 21, 2025

10:30 a.m. –Worship Service in person and on YouTube

Christmas Dinner/White Elephant Gift Exchange After Worship

### Monday, December 22, 2025

9:00 a.m. – noon – UCAP Assistance Office Open  
(Assistance: 244-4599 / Free Store: 535-2786)

6:15 p.m. Joint Deacon and Session Meetng

### Tuesday, December 23, 2025

6:00 p.m. Antioch Group – Covenant Room



### **THIS WEEKS BIRTHDAYS**

#### **December 17**

Olivia Guy

#### **December 18**

Charles Collins

#### **December 21**

Wilhelmina DeBoer

### **THIS WEEKS ANNIVERSARIES**

#### **December 20**

Larry & Ann Hermen



### PRAYER LIST

**If you, or someone you know, would like to be added to the prayer list, please let the office know at (269) 273-9571.** Without prayer we lose sight of God. Living a prayerful life is living a powerful life.

“We lift these names to God for each of their own unique needs.”

**Cassie Major... receiving therapy in Three Rivers due to a stroke**  
**Levon Storms... Health concerns**

**Bucky Horsmon...Continued prayers for strength and recovery**

**Karen Armstrong... Continued prayers for strength and mobility**

**Gary Armstrong... Celebrating good results of his PET SCAN!**

**Bruce Monroe...Celebration of life will be held 2:00 pm Dec 28 TR Riviera Theatre**

**Pauline Northrop... (Michael Northrop's stepmother) Borgess Hospital facing surgery on severely damaged knee but it is complicated with COVID.**

**Norm Beckwith... Hospice Care at Home (Becky DeBoer)**

**Cards can be sent to:**

**Cassie Major at 20296 M86 Centreville 49032**

**Bucky Horsmon at 59940 Knevels Ct. Three Rivers 49093**

**Karen and Gary Armstrong at 12681 Sleepy Hollow Rd Three Rivers 49093**

**Lavon Storms at 22841 Storms Rd Centreville 49032**

# Our Church Directory is Online!

You can now view our church directory online or through the **FREE** mobile app.

To access the directory online, go to [members.InstantChurchDirectory.com](http://members.InstantChurchDirectory.com) and enter your email address as listed in the directory. Click on “Send Secure Sign-In Link.” Then check your email and click on the “**Log in to Instant Church Directory**” button found in your email.

A free mobile app is also available in the **Apple® App Store** and the **Google Play™ Store**. Just search for “[Instant Church Directory](#)” to download.

Important: Your email address **must be listed in the directory before you can log in**.

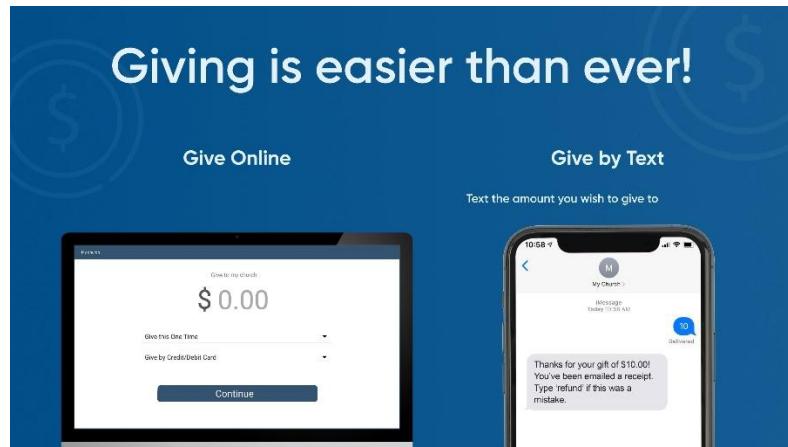
## Need help or have questions?

**Please contact Catherine in the Church Office**

Our Church Directory is powered by [Instant Church Directory](#).

# HOW TO SET UP ONLINE (AUTOMATED) GIVING

Breeze (Our Data Base) allows you to donate and automatically records your giving. Donors *do not* need to have a Breeze account to give to the church.



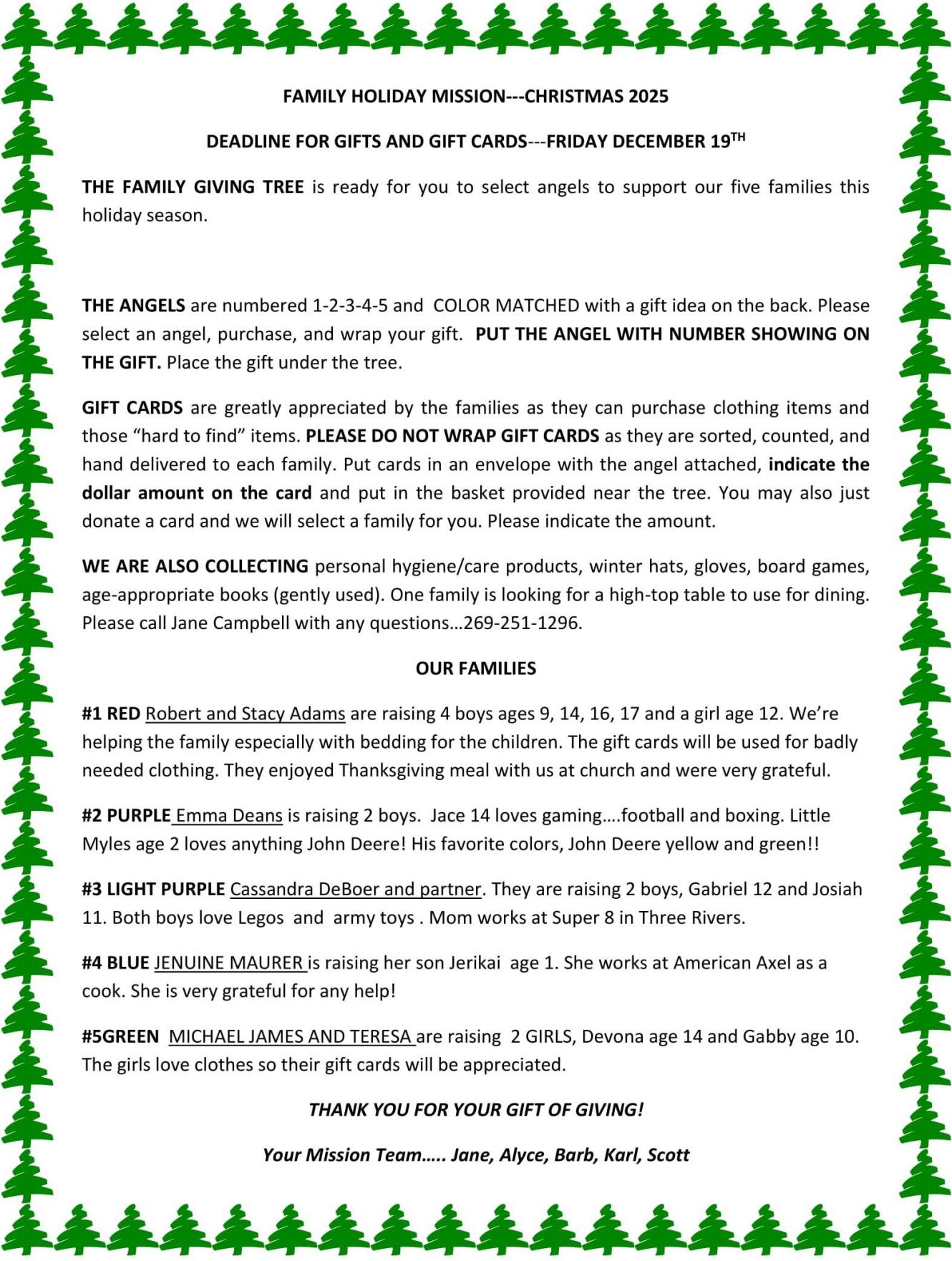
- Go to: <https://firstprestrc.com/giving/> or Scan the QR Code



- Enter the amount you'd like to give.
- Click the dropdown that shows the words "one time gift" and select a different frequency from the menu (weekly, every two weeks, monthly, yearly).
- Select your Payment Method and click "Continue".
- Now, enter your Contact and Payment Information and choose if you would like to cover the processing fees.
- Click the "Give \$" button.

- *If you have questions or need help setting up online contact Catherine at [finance@firstprestrc.com](mailto:finance@firstprestrc.com) or 269-273-9571*



## FAMILY HOLIDAY MISSION---CHRISTMAS 2025

DEADLINE FOR GIFTS AND GIFT CARDS---FRIDAY DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>

**THE FAMILY GIVING TREE** is ready for you to select angels to support our five families this holiday season.

**THE ANGELS** are numbered 1-2-3-4-5 and COLOR MATCHED with a gift idea on the back. Please select an angel, purchase, and wrap your gift. **PUT THE ANGEL WITH NUMBER SHOWING ON THE GIFT.** Place the gift under the tree.

**GIFT CARDS** are greatly appreciated by the families as they can purchase clothing items and those "hard to find" items. **PLEASE DO NOT WRAP GIFT CARDS** as they are sorted, counted, and hand delivered to each family. Put cards in an envelope with the angel attached, **indicate the dollar amount on the card** and put in the basket provided near the tree. You may also just donate a card and we will select a family for you. Please indicate the amount.

**WE ARE ALSO COLLECTING** personal hygiene/care products, winter hats, gloves, board games, age-appropriate books (gently used). One family is looking for a high-top table to use for dining. Please call Jane Campbell with any questions...269-251-1296.

### OUR FAMILIES

**#1 RED** Robert and Stacy Adams are raising 4 boys ages 9, 14, 16, 17 and a girl age 12. We're helping the family especially with bedding for the children. The gift cards will be used for badly needed clothing. They enjoyed Thanksgiving meal with us at church and were very grateful.

**#2 PURPLE** Emma Deans is raising 2 boys. Jace 14 loves gaming....football and boxing. Little Myles age 2 loves anything John Deere! His favorite colors, John Deere yellow and green!!

**#3 LIGHT PURPLE** Cassandra DeBoer and partner. They are raising 2 boys, Gabriel 12 and Josiah 11. Both boys love Legos and army toys . Mom works at Super 8 in Three Rivers.

**#4 BLUE** JENUINE MAURER is raising her son Jerikai age 1. She works at American Axel as a cook. She is very grateful for any help!

**#5GREEN** MICHAEL JAMES AND TERESA are raising 2 GIRLS, Devona age 14 and Gabby age 10. The girls love clothes so their gift cards will be appreciated.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF GIVING!**

*Your Mission Team..... Jane, Alyce, Barb, Karl, Scott*

## ■ CHRISTMAS FAVORITES SAMPLING SUNDAY ■

### A Celebration of Family Traditions, Faith & Fellowship

What food is a cherished family Christmas tradition or a beloved holiday favorite? Let's fill the table with the flavors that make Christmas special in each of our homes!

You are invited to bring a favorite holiday side dish or dessert to be celebrated during worship on December 21st and then shared at the Christmas Dinner following service.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** You do NOT need to bring enough to serve everyone — just enough for small samples so we can enjoy a wide variety of treasured family favorites.

This is a joyful way to share family traditions, celebrate together, and enjoy the tastes of Christmas across our church family.

Let's gather around the table — and around our stories — this Christmas!

**Date:** Sunday, December 21st

**What to Bring:** A Favorite Family Side Dish or Dessert

**SIGN-UP  
SHEET  
LOCATED IN  
THE NARTHEX**



# CHRISTMAS DINNER & WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025

AFTER WORSHIP

THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE  
WILL BE SERVING HAM  
AND ALL THE SIDES.



# WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE

First Presbyterian Church – Three Rivers/Centreville

Sunday, December 21, 2025

Following Worship – Fellowship Hall

**Join Us for a Joyful Afternoon of Laughter & Surprises!**

Bring a wrapped gift and enjoy the fun of exchanging silly, festive, or surprising gifts with friends!

## GIFT GUIDELINES

- Price Range: \$10–\$15
- Wrap It Well: No tags
- Family-Friendly gifts
- One gift per participant

## HOW IT WORKS

1. Each participant receives a number.
2. #1 selects and opens the first gift.
3. #2 may steal the opened gift or open a new one.
4. Each person may steal or open on their turn.
5. Gifts may be stolen no more than 2–3 times.
6. When all gifts are opened, the game ends!

## STAY FOR CHRISTMAS DINNER!

After worship, enjoy a festive meal before the gift exchange. All ages welcome!

WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE

KJVER

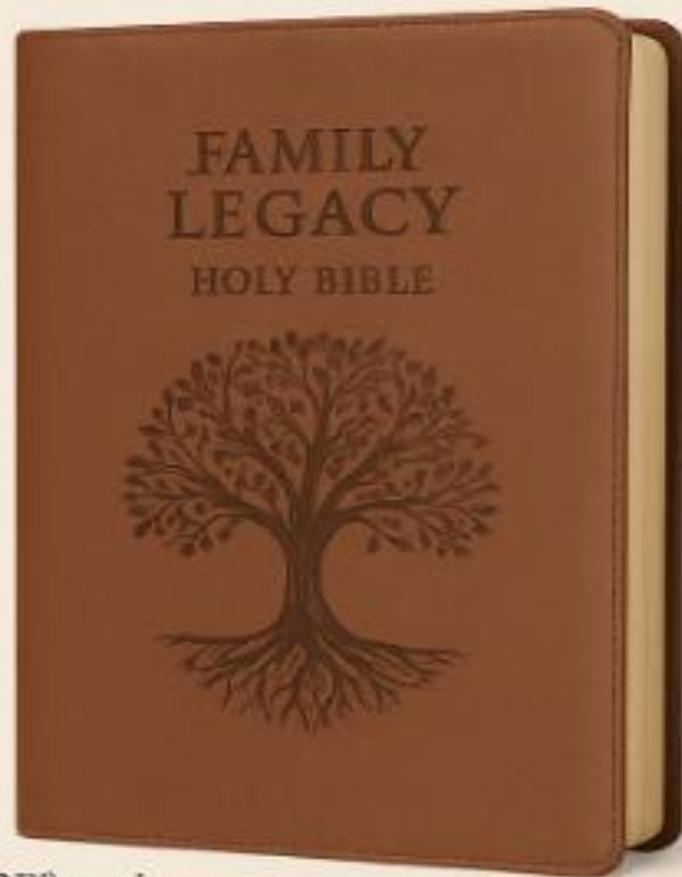
# FAMILY LEGACY HOLY BIBLE

LARGE PRINT • COFFEE ULTRASOFT

(King James Version Easy Read, Red Letter, Brown)

With a rich, coffee brown ultrasoft cover featuring a design of an ever-growing tree, this durable large print Family Legacy Holy Bible makes a perfect gift for families, weddings, and anniversaries that is sure to be treasured for years to come.

A special edition of the King James Version Easy Read Bible (KJVER™) series, it includes pages for recording important family events, such as marriages, births and adoptions, and baptisms



**\$40.00**

Contact Catherine in the  
Church Office to Order

## RECIPE OF THE WEEK

### Ground Beef and Gravy Over Mashed Potatoes



#### Ingredients:

##### For the Mashed Potatoes:

- 2 pounds of potatoes, peeled and quartered
- ½ cup of milk
- 4 tablespoons of butter
- Salt and pepper to taste

##### For the Ground Beef and Gravy:

- 1 pound of ground beef
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 2 cloves of garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons of all-purpose flour
- 2 cups of beef broth
- 1 tablespoon of Worcestershire sauce
- Salt and pepper to taste

Optional: 1 cup of frozen peas and carrots

#### Directions:

##### Prepare the Mashed Potatoes:

Place the peeled and quartered potatoes in a large pot and cover with water. Add a pinch of salt and bring to a boil.

Reduce the heat and let the potatoes simmer until they are tender, about 20 minutes.

Drain the potatoes and return them to the pot. Add the milk and butter, then mash until smooth and creamy. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Cover the pot to keep the potatoes warm while you prepare the gravy.

##### Cook the Ground Beef and Prepare the Gravy:

In a large skillet, brown the ground beef over medium-high heat until it's no longer pink. Drain any excess fat.

Add the diced onion and minced garlic to the skillet with the beef. Cook for about 5 minutes, until the onions are clear.

Sprinkle the flour over the beef mixture and cook, stirring constantly, for another 2 minutes to get rid of the raw flour taste.

Gradually stir in the beef broth and Worcestershire sauce, scraping up any browned bits from the bottom of the skillet. Bring the mixture to a simmer and let the gravy thicken, about 5 minutes.

If you like, you can add the frozen peas and carrots during the last few minutes of cooking. They add a nice touch of color and a bit of extra nutrition.

Season the gravy with salt and pepper to taste.



### SERVICES NOW ON YOUTUBE

Services are now being livestreamed on YouTube. This link will take you to the channel homepage (@FirstPresbyterianChurchTR) if we are NOT streaming, and take you directly to the live stream when we ARE streaming: [http://youtube.com/channel/UCzz\\_8xXzgNWF580WTJwSoxA/live](http://youtube.com/channel/UCzz_8xXzgNWF580WTJwSoxA/live)

#### PER CAPITA AND ONLINE GIVING INFORMATION

The 2025 Per capita donation is

**\$42.00 per person**

2026 Per capita donation is

**\$42.42 per person**

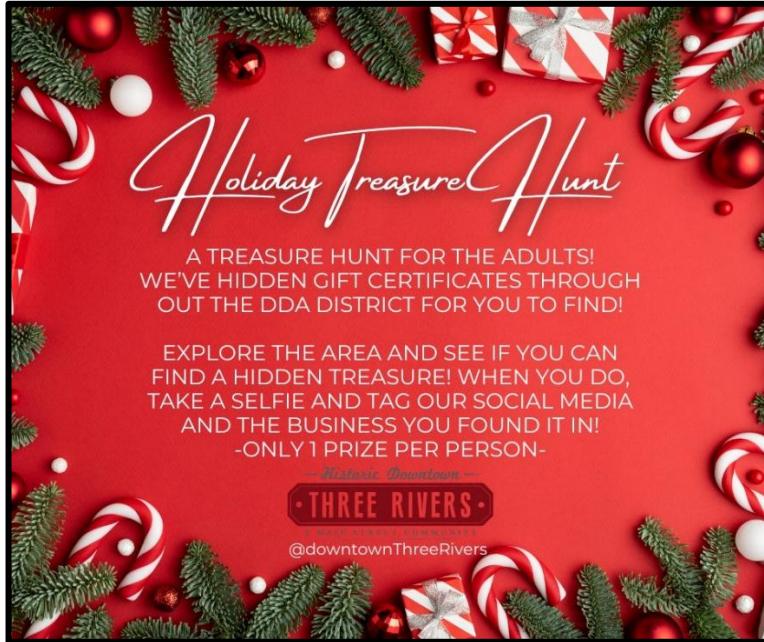
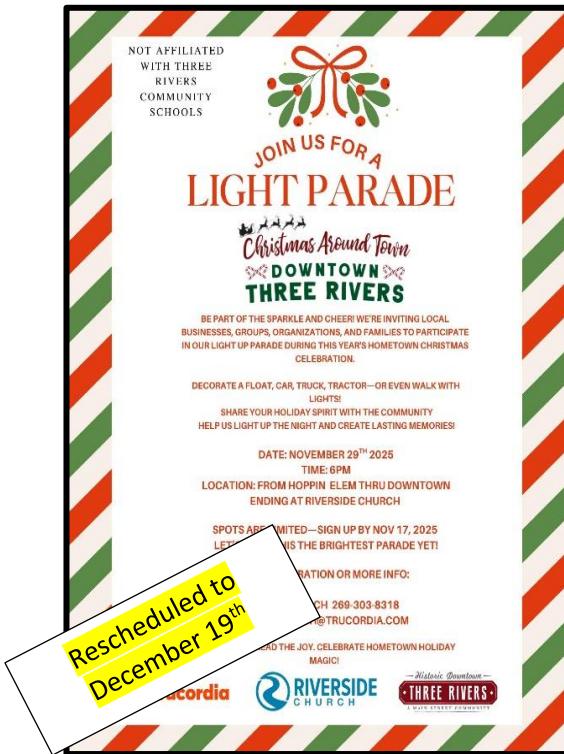
* Presbytery	\$27.76	\$27.76
* PCUSA	\$10.84	\$11.26
* Synod of the Covenant	\$3.40	\$3.40

The Online Giving portal now includes a drop down and comments Field for members. It is helpful for the accounting department if online givers use the drop down or Notation/Comments field for any donations other than regular contributions...such as Minister's Discretion, Per Capita, Legacy Future, Bequests etc.

*Do you have concerns or suggestions regarding music or worship? Feel free to talk to any member of the Worship and Music Committee:*

***Sue Pazynski, Jenny Minger, Jo Barton, Cindy Nelson, Michael Northrop, Mary Sue Pollitt, Mary Ann Sindt, Ethel Stears***

# Upcoming Community Events



Wednesday, December 31, 2025 at 9PM

## The Riviera's Midnight On Main, A New Year's Eve Celebration

50 N Main St, Three Rivers, MI, United States, Michigan 49093

**Tues. 12/23 - 7pm  
No Cover!**



Tuesday, December 23, 2025 at 7PM

Dr. Suess How The Grinch Stole Christmas

50 N Main St, Three Rivers, MI, United States, Michigan 49093



## Holiday events around St. Jo County

**White Pigeon Fire Department**

**Sat. 12/13 5p - 7p**

**16975 US Highway 12, White Pigeon, MI**

**Sturgis Community Choir Concert**

**Fri. 12/12 7p**

**First Presbyterian Church, 1320 S Lakeview Street**

**See Santa at Corey Lake Orchards**

**Sat. 12/13 10a & 3p**

**12147 Corey Lake Road, Three Rivers,**

**\*there is a fee and reservations recommended**

**Holiday Light Parade**

**Fri. 12/19 6p**

**Downtown Three Rivers**

**Free showing of The Grinch**

**Sat. 12/23 7p**

**Riviera Theatre**

**50 N Main St. Three Rivers**



# COMMISSION ON AGING

## December 2025 Activities CALENDAR Three Rivers

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 10am - Arthritis Exercise - Taking it Easy 11am - S.A.I.L. Exercise 1pm - Chair Yoga 1pm - Pinochle 2pm - Zumba Gold	2 8:15am - Forever Fit 9:30am - Cardio Drumming 10:30am - Arthritis Exercise 12:45pm - Mah Jongg 1pm - Bingo 2:30pm - Pinochle 6pm Alzheimer's Support Group at Rivers COA	3 9am Say Yes! To weights 10am - Flexible You 10am - Arthritis Exercise Taking it Easy 11am - S.A.I.L. 11am - In Stitches 1pm - Pinochle	4 <b>CENTERS ARE OPEN BUT ALL ACTIVITIES AND CONGREGATE LUNCH ARE CANCELLED</b> <b>Annual Holiday Party</b>	5 9:30am - Line Dancing 10am - Arthritis Exercise - Taking it Easy 11am - S.A.I.L. Exercise 12:30pm - Bingo at Klines 1pm - Bingo 1pm - Mah Jongg
8 10am - Arthritis Exercise - Taking it Easy 11am - S.A.I.L. Exercise 1pm - Chair Yoga 1pm - Pinochle 2pm - Zumba Gold	9 8:15am - Forever Fit 9:30am - Cardio Drumming 10:30am - Arthritis Exercise 12:45pm - Mah Jongg 1pm - Bingo 2:30pm - Pinochle Dinner & a Movie Night 10am-11am Stroke Support Group at TR Hospital	10 9am Say Yes! To weights 10am - Flexible You 10am - Arthritis Exercise - Taking it Easy 11am - S.A.I.L. 11am - In Stitches 1pm - Pinochle 1pm Rock Painting Christkindl Market & Planetarium Trip	11 8:15am - Forever Fit 9:30am - Cardio Drumming 10:30am - Arthritis Exercise Taking it Easy 1pm - Chair Yoga 1pm - Euchre 2pm - Zumba Gold	12 9:30am - Line Dancing 10am - Arthritis Exercise - Taking it Easy 11am - S.A.I.L. Exercise 12:30pm - Bingo at Klines 1pm - Bingo 1pm - Mah Jongg Manheim Steamroller Christmas Trip
15 10am - Arthritis Exercise - Taking it Easy <b>10am Tech Time</b> 11am - S.A.I.L. Exercise 1pm - Chair Yoga 1pm - Pinochle 2pm - Zumba Gold <b>Shopping Trip</b>	16 8:15am - Forever Fit 9:30am - Cardio Drumming 10:30am - Arthritis Exercise 12:45pm - Mah Jongg 1pm - Bingo 2:30pm - Pinochle	17 9am Say Yes! To weights 10am - Flexible You 10am - Arthritis Exercise - Taking it Easy 11am - S.A.I.L. Exercise <b>12pm Book Club</b> 9am-12:30pm Legal assistance by phone Center Closes at 12:30pm for Staff Training	18 8:15am - Forever Fit 9:30am - Cardio Drumming 10:30am - Arthritis Exercise 1pm - Chair Yoga 1pm - Euchre 2pm - Zumba Gold	19 9:30am - Line Dancing 10am - Arthritis Exercise - Taking it Easy 11am - S.A.I.L. Exercise <b>11:45am - Red Hatters</b> 12:30pm - Bingo at Klines 1pm Bingo 1pm - Mah Jongg Cinema Circle and Dinner White Christmas Trip
22 10am - Arthritis Exercise - Taking it Easy 11am - S.A.I.L. Exercise 1pm - Chair Yoga 1pm - Pinochle 2pm - Zumba Gold	23 8:15am - Forever Fit 9:30am - Cardio Drumming 10:30am - Arthritis Exercise 12:45pm - Mah Jongg 1pm - Bingo 2:30pm - Pinochle	24 <b>Closed</b> <b>Happy Holidays</b>	25 <b>Closed</b> <b>Happy Holidays</b>	26 9:30am - Line Dancing <b>CANCELLED</b> 10am - Arthritis Exercise - Taking it Easy 11am - S.A.I.L. Exercise 12:30pm - Bingo at Klines 1pm Bingo 1pm - Mah Jongg
29 10am - Arthritis Exercise - Taking it Easy 11am - S.A.I.L. Exercise 1pm - Chair Yoga 1pm - Pinochle 2pm - Zumba Gold	30 8:15am - Forever Fit <b>9am Foot Clinic</b> 9:30am - Cardio Drumming 10:30am - Arthritis Exercise 12:45pm - Mah Jongg 1pm - Bingo 2:30pm - Pinochle <b>Firekeepers Casino Trip</b>	31 <b>Closed</b> <b>New Years Eve</b>	1 <b>Closed</b> <b>Happy New Year</b>	2 9:30am - Line Dancing 10am - Arthritis Exercise - Taking it Easy 11am - S.A.I.L. Exercise 12:30pm - Bingo at Klines 1pm Bingo 1pm - Mah Jongg



## St. Joseph County DECEMBER 2025 FRESH FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

**Centreville Seventh Day Adventist Church**  
23683 M-86, Centreville  
Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>  
4:00 pm \*free ride available

**First Presbyterian Church**  
1320 S. Lakeview, Sturgis  
Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>  
4:00 pm

**White Pigeon Schools (Middle/High School)**  
410 Prairie Ave., White Pigeon  
Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>\*  
3:30 pm  
\*Date change due to winter break

**Constantine High School**  
1 Falcon Drive (bus Circle  
Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>  
3:45 pm  
*For the safety of students and due to school dismissal times, food distribution line up starts at 3:20 pm. Cars that arrive to line up prior to 3:20 pm will be required to leave and come back.*

**Railroad Park**  
203 W. Front St., Burr Oak  
Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>  
3:00 – 4:00 pm

**Gateway Village Apts.**  
409 Gateway Ct., Sturgis  
Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>  
10:30 am

**Colon High School**  
400 Dallas St., Colon  
Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>  
4:30 pm

**The Huss Project**  
1008 8<sup>th</sup> St., Three Rivers  
Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 am

\*A free ride to and from the distribution at Seventh Day Adventist Church in Centreville is available through SJCTA, (as time and capacity allows). 24 hours notice required. Call 269-273-7808.

For additional food distributions in St. Joseph County, MI through other agencies, food pantry hours, and other supportive events, see the human services calendar and St. Joseph County Community Resource Guide at <https://sjchumanservices.com>

# Need Food, Gas, or Clothing?

UCAP

(United Community Assistance Program)

The United Community Assistance Program began in 2014 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit to help our neighbors in need throughout St. Joseph County by coordinating services and partnering with faith-based communities, organizations, and individuals. Through the financial support of United Way and area churches, businesses, service organizations and individuals we have been able to continue to help in the following ways:

## Assistance Office

320 N. Main St.  
(Bennett St. entrance)  
Three Rivers, MI 49093  
269-244-4599  
Open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday  
9:00 am – noon

We help with:

- ✓ Food
- ✓ Gas vouchers
- ✓ Utility assistance
- ✓ Personal care/cleaning items
- ✓ Information on other resources

## Stone Cottage Free Store

Corner of West & Bennett Streets  
(Behind the First Presbyterian Church)  
Three Rivers, MI 49093  
Open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday  
9:00 am – noon

Inventory varies from day to day:

- ✓ Clothing: all ages and sizes
- ✓ Undergarments
- ✓ Coats & shoes: all ages and sizes
- ✓ Hats, scarves, gloves/mittens
- ✓ Blankets, towels, and sheets
- ✓ Variety of kitchen items
- ✓ Small household items
- ✓ Plus so much more

We collaborate with and support the main agencies that provide direct assistance to those in need: DHHS, KeyStone Place, United Way and many others as listed in the St. Joseph County Resource Guide.

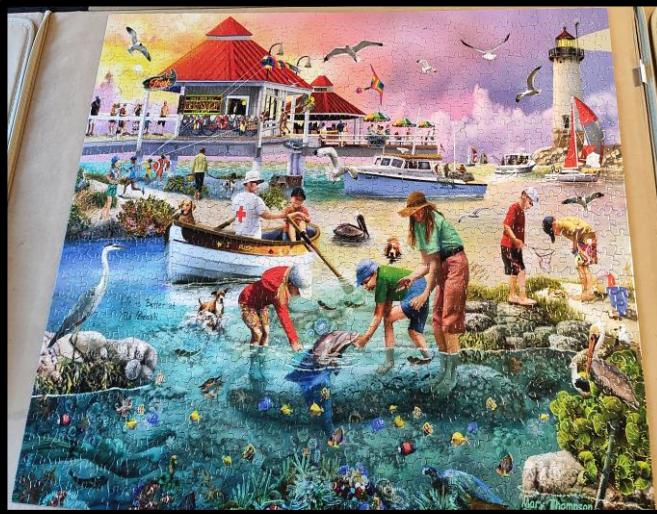
Oversight is provided by the Board of Directors. UCAP operates with one paid employee and more than 30 volunteers.

## HELP WITH FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

Over the past year we have provided several funeral luncheons. It is a comfort for the family and friends, and also is a fellowship opportunity for those who help. Also – donations to the funeral luncheon fund are very much appreciated!

## Check Requests

*Just a reminder:* For any expenses to be reimbursed by FPC, the accounting office requires an **Expense reimbursement Request Form** to be filled out and initialed by the Committee to approve the expense. (FPC has a policy on this.) Thank you for your cooperation.



Another beautiful puzzle completed.

Join us in the Narthex for the next one in process. Before or after worship or M-F 9:00a.m - Noon

## WHERE ARE OUR FRIENDS?

Cards and/or calls are greatly appreciated!

**Donna Ward**

Alexian Village

671 Alexian Way Apt. 622

Signal Mountain, TN 37377

**Beverly J. Burnham**

17383 Oakcrest Pkwy B9

Spring Lake, MI 49456

**Pat Clementz**

Thurston Woods Memory Care

307 N. Franks Ave

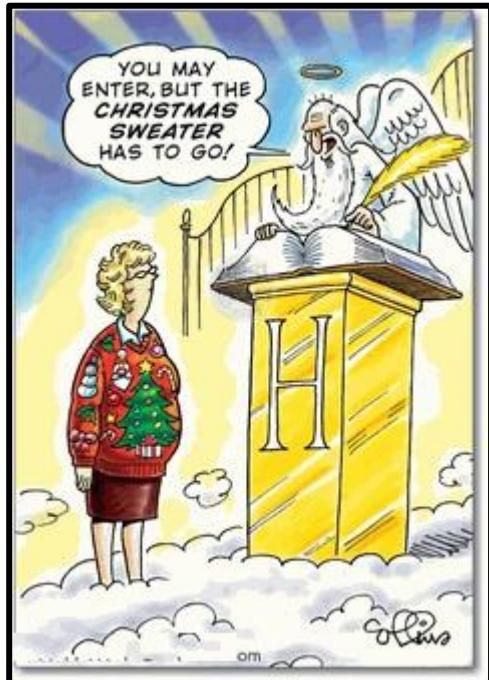
Sturgis, MI 49091

**Fran Hagerty**

Lake House

1215 Elm St.

Three Rivers, MI 49093





## UNITED COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

### ASSISTANCE OFFICE

Office across the hall from the church office

**(269) 244-4599**

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

9 a.m. – noon

Offering food,

gas vouchers and utility assistance

to St. Joseph County residents in need



**EMPTY POCKETS DONATIONS FROM**  
**October TOTAL OF \$128.77 (We**  
**missed November empty Pockets due**  
**to weather – Let's make it a great**  
**December)!!**

Click on the link below to give electronically:

<https://firstprestrc.com/giving/>

Finance Questions may be directed to Catherine Marciel. To reach by phone call (269)273-9571  
[office@firstprestrc.com](mailto:office@firstprestrc.com)

**It is helpful for the accounting department if online givers use the drop down or Notation/Comments field for any donations other than regular contributions...such as Minister's Discretion, Per Capita, Legacy Future, Bequests etc.**



### STONE COTTAGE FREE STORE

Corner of Bennet and West Street

269-535-2786

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9 a.m. – Noon

