



**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 31, 2014**

**Think on These Things Before Worship**

Fort Street's presence in the city:

A Spiritual Beacon in Downtown Detroit

A Spiritual Oasis in Downtown Detroit

A Spiritual Home in Downtown Detroit

Welcoming All of God's Children  
to a place of safety and compassion,  
to a place of challenge and renewal

***Fort Street Presbyterian Church***  
***631 W. Fort Street***  
***Detroit, MI 48226***  
***Phone (313) 961-4533***

*[www.fortstreet.org](http://www.fortstreet.org)*  
*[www.facebook.com/fortstreet](http://www.facebook.com/fortstreet)*

**Gathering the Community**  
*Our focus during the summer months:*  
*“Making space for the Spirit to move powerfully”*

PRELUDE Ray Staroscik  
Pianist

WELCOME Cindy Edwards

INTROIT Ray Staroscik

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**Many: Maker of heaven and earth.**

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;  
**Many: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

One: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
**All: Worship the Lord with gladness.**  
**Come into God’s presence with singing!**

**\*HYMN # 466** *“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”*

COMMUNITY PRAYER OF CONFESSION Cindy Edwards

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS *(in silence)*

RESPONSE IN SONG # 374 *“Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace” (v. 1)*

THE ASSURANCE Pamela Hutchens

RESPONSE IN SONG # 374 *“Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace” (v. 2)*

**\*SHARING THE PEACE** Cindy Edwards

The Peace of the Living Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**THE WORD**

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 26  
*(p. 476 in pew Bible)* Cindy Edwards

God’s Word for us. **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYERS WITH THE CHILDREN Beth Brown

SECOND READING

Romans 12: 9 - 21  
*(pp. 151-2 in pew Bible)*  
God's Word for us. **Thanks be to God.**

Pamela Hutchens

ANTHEM

Ray Staroscik

SERMON

**"The Power of Forgiveness"**

Pamela Hutchens

\*HYMN # 347

*"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"*

## THE RESPONSE

\*AN AFFIRMATION

*(from The Confession of 1967)*

Cindy Edwards

**We believe that God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation. The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community in which we are reconciled to God and to one another. The Spirit enables us to receive forgiveness as we forgive one another and to enjoy the peace of God as we make peace among ourselves. We believe that in spite of our sin, the Holy Spirit gives us power to become representatives of Jesus Christ and to proclaim the good news of reconciliation to all.**

\*RESPONSE IN SONG # 374 *"Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace"* (v. 3)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT  
*(Feel free to use the language and words closest to your heart)*

Pamela Hutchens

OUR OFFERING TO GOD

*(Loose offering will be used by the Deacons for their work.)*

OFFERTORY

Ray Staroscik

\*DOXOLOGY # 591

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Cindy Edwards

\*HYMN # 420

*"God of Grace and God of Glory"*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*(Please sit quietly enjoying the postlude as part of your worship experience.)*

Pamela Hutchens

POSTLUDE

Ray Staroscik

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\*You are invited to rise in body or spirit at your discretion

This morning, we welcome to the pulpit Commissioned Ruling Elder Pamela Hutchens. She is a Certified Lay Pastor after completing the CLP program through the Maumee Valley Presbytery in 2005. Pam was commissioned to Southwest United Presbyterian Church in Southwest Detroit for four years, 2006-2010 and is currently searching for where God can use her next. She lives in Taylor, and is a member of Southminster Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Mook is on vacation with her family, enjoying a time of relaxation and renewal. She looks forward to being back with you as we begin an exciting fall together here at Fort Street, boldly moving out into our Detroit community.

If you need assistance while the Pastor is out of the office, please contact Lola Fryer Davidson, at the Church Office: 313-961-4533. For emergencies, when Lola cannot be reached at the office, please call Lola's personal number which can be found in the church directory.

*Thank you for gathering with us for worship this morning. Following worship, refreshments will be served in the Keely Commons. Please join us!*

## **RETURN TO 11:00 a.m. WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY**

After more informal and intimate summer worship services in the air conditioned Great Hall, **next Sunday, September 7, we return to the Sanctuary and to the 11:00 a.m. worship time.** Bring a friend, or someone you haven't seen for a while, and begin the new church program year with your Fort Street faith community in the grandeur of the Sanctuary.

## **FALL ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY**

Some Presbyterians, including some Fort Streeters, are questioning positions taken by the PCUSA at the recent General Assembly earlier this summer right here in Detroit. This historic Assembly left some ecstatic with what they understand as justice finally gained in the PCUSA for LGBTQ sisters and brothers. Others are wondering if we, as a denomination, have lost our scriptural grounding.

Beginning in September, you are invited to join in respectful and informed conversation about love, marriage, and sexuality with the Pastor and with others in our faith community. In our conversations, all perspectives will be respected, and all persons will be honored.

For this class, we will be using a recent book by Mark Achtemeier, who shares how and why his heart was changed when he took a personal journey of delving deeply into our scriptures. In *The Bible's Yes to Same-Sex Marriage: An Evangelical's Change of Heart*, Achtemeier explains how his in-depth study of the Bible led him from being a conservative, evangelical opponent of gay rights to becoming a strong supporter of a fully inclusive church and of same-sex marriage. As we talk about Achtemeier's new insights into the biblical message, come and discover what message God may have for you at this time in your life.

On **September 14, from 9:00 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. in the McMillan Room**, Dr. Mook will begin leading this several-week-long Bible study. You can purchase the book we will be using online from Amazon, or from The Thoughtful Christian, or reserve your copy by calling Joan Poole, Chair of the Spiritual Life Committee, or Janet Bunt, Vice-chair of the Spiritual Life Committee.

Liturgist  
Acolyte  
Sound Technician  
Videographer  
Reception Coordinator

Cindy Edwards  
Emeka Uduma  
Twiler French  
Randy Commissaris  
5th Sunday Potluck

**Ushers are available to provide assistance with particular needs:**

Large Print Hymnals  
Hearing Assist System  
Wheelchair Access Ramp  
Wheelchair Seating--locations available in the sanctuary  
Handicap Restroom--using elevator to second floor

**FORT STREET STAFF:**

Judith Sheldon, Director of Christian Education; Ben Ogden, Director of Open Door; Edward Kingins, Music Director; LaMonica Harris, Finance Office Temp; Lola JF Davidson, Secretary; Kenneth McCoy, Building Engineer; Donna Bryant, Bob Haynes, Parking Security; Marilyn Moore, Karen Wright, Donlin Center Staff; Stacey Kershaw, Johnnie Hester, Cheryl Glidden, Open Door Staff.

**Pastor**

The Rev. Dr. Sharon L. Mook, Ph.D.,  
revdrMook@fortstreet.org  
www.facebook.com/fortstreet

**Pastor Emeritus:** The Rev. Dr. Robert H. Crilley

**Prayers for Military loved ones.**

Lt. Harrison L Coleman USN, Taylor Hansen USMC, Jonathan Heyler, SSGT Shanell Howard AFB, Sgt. Christopher King, Capt. Michael Kurtti, Lt. Theo Moran USAF, Alta Morrison, Lt. Jon Palmer USA, Lt. Marty Palmer USA, Charles Andrew Parsons II USN, USMC Captain Katy Spicer Hess, Alexander Szelestey, USMC, Lt. Mark Webster.

**Prayer List for the month of August 2014**

David, Meschelle, Don/Lois Bardwell, Lynne Bieniek, Derek/Maxine Bloodworth family, Carla Brooks, The Claire family, Yvonne Cameron, Coleman family, Johnny Daniels, Bobbie Edwards, Rose Grosscup, Shannon Howard, Hudson family, Geraldine Adams Jones, Valerie Kimbrough, Leaming family, Lemus family, Don/Virginia Lorimer, Karen Marcil, Cheryl Myers, Sarah Morgan, Jerry Naragon, Derrick Parker/family, Kathy Payne/family, Kevin Pearson, Richard Petrie, Easter Ponder, David Poole, Price family, Richard/Suellen Sale family, David Shillito, Benjamin Solomons/family, Turner family, Wanda Sumner, Patricia Walsh.