



First Church of God Mature Adult Ministry - [myfirstchurch.com/prime-timers](http://myfirstchurch.com/prime-timers) - 269.983.1524  
 First Church of God, 2627 Niles Avenue, St. Joseph, Michigan | First Church at Benton Heights, 990 Euclid Avenue, Benton Harbor, Michigan

# Welcome to our Folks in Benton Heights!



We would like to extend a warm welcome to the newest members of our church family, the congregation of the former Benton Heights Church of God, now “First Church at Benton Heights.” First Church of God’s second campus.

The Prime Time Ministry is a ministry to all area adults over the age of 60 years. If you are in the “prime time” of your life, we invite you to join in this ministry. Registering for an event/outing is easy (*see last page*), however, if you have any questions/concerns, do not hesitate to call us at 269.983.1524. We want you to feel at home.

It is our desire that you experience the joy of the Lord as we work together for the saving of souls and the good of our communities.

First Church at Benton Heights is located near the airport at 990 Euclid Avenue, Benton Harbor (a block west of Red Arrow Hwy). Services will be held Sundays at 11:00am, beginning March 7. Everyone is invited.

## Meet the Gossip-Free Challenge Celebrity

What has caused more wars, broken up more homes, ruined more businesses, split more churches, divided more teams, and destroyed more lives than anything else throughout human history? *Gossip!*

- | MENU                |
|---------------------|
| Pepper Steak/Rice   |
| Peas w/pearl onions |
| Tossed salad        |
| Fruit Platter       |
| Rolls/Butter        |
| Valentine Cookies   |
| Ice Cream           |

Kevin Hester (from Coloma) has introduced the **gossip-free challenge** which has taken the world by storm. He has been on TV, radio, newspapers, and blogs internationally; and will be with *us* on **Friday, February 19, at 12:00pm.** *Just think! A celebrity coming to share with Prime Timers at First Church!*

In addition, we’ll enjoy a beef pepper steak/rice catered dinner and celebrate Valentine’s Day. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors, & let’s pack the Fellowship Hall for this special event!

**Cost for this event is \$13/person. Register no later than Monday, February 15.**





## 2 Ways to Go to Turkeyville

*You have choices!* Prime Timers and Trinity Trekkers are going together to Turkeyville on two different dates, so you have two chances to take this trip!

### Friday, April 23, via Royal Excursion

The first trip is on Friday, April 23, aboard a comfortable motorcoach that leaves the Trinity Lutheran east parking lot at 9:30am, arriving home in the early evening.

### Tuesday, May 25, via Church Bus

The second trip is Tuesday, May 25, aboard the First Church of God bus, leaving the First Church parking lot at 9:00am, arriving home by 6:00pm.

## Snowbirds & the Census

Census forms do not ask where you live. That information comes from the bar code on the address label. Thus, you will be counted in the Sunbelt if you complete the census form that you receive at your Sunbelt address. Is that a problem? *It can be!*

Counting snowbirds in the wrong place has reduced Michigan's political influence in Congress, as well as, the level of federal funding received.

Every resident of the United States should be counted by the census ONCE and in the right place

The official residence rules for the census state that "snowbirds" should be "counted at the residence where they live most of the year." Most of Michigan's snowbirds—people who spend the summer months in Michigan and the winter months in a southern state—should:

- Enter a zero for the number of people living at their Sunbelt address.
- Leave the rest of their Sunbelt census form blank, except for marking "usual residence elsewhere"
- Wait until they get back to their usual residence in Michigan to fill out the census that was delivered there.

If Michigan is your home, be counted in Michigan!

Both trips will enjoy a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings and presentation of the "Church Basement Ladies: A Second Helping."

Cost for the trips differ due to the mode of transportation.

The April 23 trip is \$56/person which includes *Royal Excursion* motor coach, the meal, the show, and gratuities. A deposit of \$30 is due with your registration, with final payment due by March 15. Contact: Rich Hackbarth 983-5000 ext 404, with questions.

Cost for the May 25 trip is \$38/person, due upon registration. The deadline for registering is April 12.

The St. Joe Senior Center is planning the same trip on a different date and is sold out already, so do not delay reserving your place on the trip of your choice.

Invite a friend and sign-up early!

## BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC



**Sunday, March 7**

**10:30-11:30am**

Room 5

First Church of God

## Enjoy a Wind Symphony Concert

Sunday, April 18 – 4:00 pm – Andrews University Wind Symphony Spring Concert and dinner at Cracker Barrel (*dinner is on your own*). The church bus leaves at 3:15pm from the First Church parking lot. Cost is \$5/person plus your dinner. Register no later than Monday, April 12.

## MENU

Beef stroganoff  
Italian green beans  
Assorted rolls/bread  
Spring green salad  
Fresh fruit tray  
Cream pies

## Therapy from a Dog's Point of View

On **Friday, April 16, 6:00pm, After a catered beef stroganoff dinner**, Cindy Briney, Lakeland Hospice Care Volunteer Coordinator will bring a couple of volunteers and their trained dogs to show how they are used in therapy for seniors in retirement homes.

**Cost is \$10/person. Register by April 12.**



## Travel to Ireland in Your Chair

We're **going to Ireland on Friday, March 19, 6:00pm!** **Robyn Emde** (whose counseling office is right across the street from First Church of God) has been to Ireland several times and will share items and a DVD of her travels with us after a **potluck dinner at 6:00pm.** Bring your favorite dish or dessert to share. Drinks provided.

**Cost is \$2/person. Sign-up by Monday, March 15.**

Robyn will also lead us in a devotional.

## Glen Aire Bible Study

You are invited to join Patty Needles weekly Bible Study sessions on **Tuesdays, 10:00-11:30am.** They are beginning a study on the book of Ruth.

Sessions are held in the Community Room of Glen Aire Mobile Home Park on Glenlord Road, St. Joseph. The Community Room is located just inside the gate.

Call Patty Needles (429-3345) for more information.

## Living Legacy Journal Workshop Returns Feb 25

*Thursdays February 25, March 4, 11, 18, & 25*

*Offered mornings (10:30-noon) OR evenings (6:30-8:00pm)*

Around thirty-five people participated in the remembering and writing experience of "Living Legacy." Now, you can, too! Pastor Bob will offer this workshop again in February. The only cost to you is purchase of the "Living Legacy" journal (\$15) available at The Good Word.

The *Living Legacy Journal Workshop* will help you to share your memories and experiences with your children and grandchildren! Your life story is a treasure for future generations, and a story that only you can really tell. It is a priceless gift of meaning and understanding to your family.

Don't miss this opportunity to pass on your experiences and the wisdom you have gained to your family.

**The 5-session workshop begins Thursday, February 25.** Simply call the church office to register for this event. Then, stop by The Good Word to pick up your journal.

*I have been delighted with the Legacy class. The journal is very thorough and well-written. Plus, Pastor Bob always has good thoughts on how to encourage us. I especially like that it addresses what we will leave behind spiritually. --Joanne Wallsten*

*For me, it has been very exciting to come to the class and work on my book. It is fun and also challenging. I am thrilled to be able to leave my life's legacy to my children in a way that is easy and fun to read. --Helga Berzins*





Subscribe to the e-version of the Prime Time Newsletter! Send e-mail requests to: [teresa@myfirstchurch.com](mailto:teresa@myfirstchurch.com).

## The Final Word

### Cash for Clunkers... If My Body Were a Car



If my body were a car, this is the time I would be thinking about trading it in for a newer model. I've got bumps and dents, scratches in my finish, and my paint job is getting a little dull. But that's not the worst of it. My headlights are out of focus and it's especially hard to see things up close.

My traction is not as graceful as it once was. I slip and slide and skid and bump into things, even in the best weather. My whitewalls are stained with varicose veins. It takes me hours to reach my maximum speed. My fuel rate burns inefficiently.

But here's the worst of it...Almost every time I sneeze, cough or laugh, either my radiator leaks or my exhaust backfires.

*Cash for Clunkers? I qualify! How about you?*

### 4 Ways to Register for Events:

- 1) Use the silver "Registrations" mailbox** located in the Gathering Area of First Church. Envelopes located next to the box make this option quick and easy.
- 2) Register at the front desk.** Come by the church office at 2627 Niles Avenue, St. Joe, Monday-Thursday, 8:00am-4:30pm.
- 3) Mail your registration.** Our address is, "Prime Time Ministry, 2627 Niles Avenue, St. Joseph, MI 49085." Add a note about which event you are registering for or (even quicker) tear out the article and add to the envelope. Make sure you allow enough time for the mail to reach the church before the deadline.
- 4) Call the church office at 269.983.1524.** When you come in and pay before the event, be sure to mention that you called first.