

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

South Haven, MI

June 2019

Zach Hanner
University of
Northwest Ohio &
National Guard

Joe Nelson
Michigan State

Cate Frost
U of M

Caroline Meyer
Michigan State

Marnie Frost
Oberlin College

William Brennen
SHAES

Elian Garcia
LMC

Brandon Dick
Job Training for
being a Barber



Baccalaureate Service for the Class of 2019 was held here at First Congregational Church on Wednesday, May 29th. Joe Nelson was one of the planners. He also participated in the services. Many thanks to Adam Peterson for performing a solo and to Patricia Kerr for playing piano. Art Ayers ran the sound and members of the Diaconate were greeters and ushers. Our thanks to all.

SPEND YOUR AFTERNOON ON FATHER'S DAY TAKING HIM TO SEE A BALL GAME



Actually anyone is invited at a cost of \$ 20/person, which includes a ride on a chartered bus and getting in.

Fathers good news! You get in for free.

More information along with a registration form can be found in the Narthex.



Prayers for continued healing of our church family:

Lynn Dick
Dave Daugherty
Tony Martorano
Marilyn Miller
Shirley Sollman



Congratulations!

Tom and Abby Larson have a new son. Their baby, Elliott James Larson was born on May 25th. A healthy 9 lbs and 2 ounces.

Blessings to the Larson family.



Please come help!

June 22nd–28th

Contacts

Mike Nelson 214-6846
Bob Linderman 214-2550

Adopt-a-Days from May

May 5th, given in honor of Geraldine Emmert Rood's life, David Henry's life, the Rev. Jeffrey Dick's ministry, Victoria Henry's service and the nurture of First Congregational Church of South Haven, given by Kathryn Rood.

May 16th, in celebration of Aaron Strebeck's 60th birthday, given by his family

May 26th, many thanks for your support during Lynn's recent surgery. The meals, cards and prayers are truly appreciated by all of us. Thank you, Jeffrey and family.

Sign up for your favorite day(s) of June. See the calendar in the Narthex!

JUNE WORSHIP

June 2nd: Graduation Sunday

One Service this morning with communion. We will honor our graduates. The Board of Christian Education will have cake for hospitality.

Summer Worship Schedule Begins on June 9th

The 8:30 service begins with a hymn sing. Mary Pietenpol plays the piano for us. This service is held in the Chapel at the north end of the building. Fellowship follows in the lounge.

The 10:30 service is held in the Sanctuary. Special music by church members and people from the community are featured during the service. People are encouraged to sit along the center aisle. Fellowship is provided after the service, sometimes in Fellowship Hall and sometimes in the Narthex.

All areas are air-conditioned and accessible.

June 9th: Pentecost Sunday the birthday of the church.

As the City of South Haven is celebrating its 150th anniversary, this will be a wonderful Sunday to talk about the birth of the Christian Church and First Congregational Church (which is 163 years old). Some history of the church while talking about Pentecost will be shared.

June 16th: Father's Day

We will continue with some church history on this Sunday as well as tie it in to the history of the church as recorded in Acts. Following worship, there is a special trip to a Whitecaps Game. See related article.

June 24th: Pastor Dick on mission trip

June 30th

We will look at the Paul's Letter to the Galatians this week and the next. This morning the passage is from chapter 5, where Paul writes in verse 13 "For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another."

July 2nd

On this holiday weekend, we will focus on Galatians chapter 6. In particular verses 9 & 10 where Paul writes, "So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all..."



Tuesday Prayer Fellowship

The Prayer Fellowship meets on Tuesdays. This summer, they will be meeting every other week at 1:30 p.m. in the lounge. The dates of the meetings are as follows:

June 4th and 18th
July 2nd, 16th and 30th
August 13th and 27th

The group sends out a weekly list by email. If you would like to be added to that email list, please send a note to Shirley Sollman at sollman@comcast.net

All are welcome any Tuesday to join in a time of prayer. If you have a prayer request, please notify the church office.

Strengthen the Church Special Offering in June

The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.

You will find envelopes in the church pews and also the Narthex.

From Pastor Dick, Evening Vesper Services

Pastor Dick recalls that: *One of the highlights of attending church camp was the evening vesper service. These are informal worship services held outdoors. The other place I enjoyed these services was when our family went camping and often at national parks or in Canada, there would be an outdoor service.*

This Summer we will hold three Vesper Services. These will be held at the Pilgrim Haven Nature Site. This is located at 77th Street and 18th Avenue along the shores of Lake Michigan. It is the former site of the Congregational Church Camp, Pilgrim Haven.

There is plenty of parking, port-a-johns, and a handicap accessible paved path to the beach area where the services will most likely be held. You do need to bring your own chair or blanket. You are also welcome to bring food and beverage. People can come early or stay late to swim, hike, eat or just relax.

The services will last 30 to 40 minutes with singing, scripture readings, prayers and time for reflection. Service will begin at 7 p.m.
The dates are: June 30th, August 4th and 25th.



World Religions and Religious Questions - A Lecture Series at First Congregational Church

A series of free lectures will be given by David Tidwell on World Religions and Religious Questions. These will be one hour presentations.

David is a graduate of Kalamazoo College and earned an MA in Religious Studies at Vanderbilt University. He has taught at high schools in Cleveland, Saudi Arabia, Grosse Pointe, and finally at Cranbrook Schools in Bloomfield Hills. There he was the chairman of the Religion- Philosophy Department and the chaplain of the school.

David has given many talks at Lake Michigan Community College in South Haven, and at the library in New Buffalo.

This series will be offered at First Congregational Church, 651 Phoenix Street in South Haven from 11 a.m. to noon. The public is invited to attend.

The series will include the following:

June 4 - Buddhism: Siddhartha Gautama was born a Hindu. However, after years and years of meditation, he became known as the Enlightened One, the Buddha. What he calls the four Noble Truths, are well worth thinking about.

June 18 - Islam
July 2 - Hinduism
July 16 - Taoism
July 30 - The Problem of Evil

Seniors, Joseph Nelson and Catherine Frost were honored at Senior Awards Night by the Wolverine Conference as South Havens Scholar Athlete Award winners. Winners must have participated in at least two varsity sports as a senior, and are then selected using a formula that takes into account GPA and standardized test scores, with each conference school being allowed two winners.



Cate Frost is a standout runner and basketball player for the Rams, who is also involved in orchestra and National Honor Society. Cate plans on attending the University of Michigan next year.

Joe Nelson participated in track, cross country, swim and soccer. He is an Eagle Scout, a member of the band, robotics team and reigning Mr. South Haven. He plans on going to MSU in the fall.

Congratulations to these two outstanding student athletes!

Summer Ministry Opportunities

Highway Clean Up - Saturday July 20th!
Time to be announced

Food Trucks: June 7th, Sept. 5th and October 21st - 10:30 to 1 p.m. at the church

CALLING ALL TRAVELERS

Many in our congregation have taken trips to interesting places. And many of us would like to hear about your travels. The CE board would like to have a show and tell of sorts in October, with a meal, while listening to a 10-15 min. presentation of your adventure.

There will be a sign up sheet in August and more details to follow. Please contact Kris Ayers (artayers16@aol.com or 637.8762) if you want to sign up now or have questions.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS IN JUNE NO SEW ORNAMENT PROJECT FOR TEENS AND ADULTS WEDNESDAY JUNE 12, 6:30-8 or so in fellowship hall

Kris Ayers will show you how to make this easy ornament . All materials will be provided. Samples can be found in the narthex with the sign up sheet. Bring a snack/beverage if you wish.

If you can't make it at 6:30, come when you can. The craft is repetitive. Just indicate your ETA on the sign up sheet.

Bring your friends!

Kris Ayers 637.8762



Bike Group - Sundays at 2 p.m.

Meet at the church. All are welcome!

South Haven Rotary Club is proud to declare member Robert (Bob) Straits its “Club Hero” for 2019

Straits was honored during the Rotary District 6360 conference on Mackinac Island on May 18. Each member-club in the district was invited to declare a “Club Hero” for recognition at the annual gathering.

“Bob Straits is a perfect example of what it means to be a Rotarian. He represents our club with dignity, and is always in search of ways the South Haven Club can be of service to our community. He exemplifies our core belief of ‘Service Above Self’, and is most deserving of this recognition,” said President Mark Odland.



Bob has been a Rotarian since 1985, first in Kalamazoo and in South Haven since 2010. He is currently treasurer and is a past president (2015-16).

In 2009 he was presented the Irving S. Gilmore Lifetime Achievement Award for his three decades of service to dozens of community organizations in the Kalamazoo area. He served five terms on the Kalamazoo City Commission. He has been passionate about serving on organizations that assist socially and economically vulnerable persons.

In South Haven is also treasurer of We Care INC and a current board member and past chair of the South Haven Community Foundation.

He retired from the W. E. Upton Institute for Employment Research where he served as administrator and director.

He and his wife Kathy of 50 years have two daughters and three grandchildren. Bob & Kathy are both members of First Congregational Church in South Haven. The Straits family has roots in southwest Michigan going back to 1892.

He received the bachelor's degree from Southern Utah University and graduate degree from Western Michigan University. He served in the U.S. Naval-Air Helicopter Combat Squadron II.

Looking at June

(all information below pertains to the
10:30 a.m. service only)

Lay Assistant

2– Bob Gabel

Acolytes

2– Camborley Gleason
Chloe McNicholas

We do not schedule during the summer but if you come to a service, and would like to serve, please see Janice Peterson.

Usher Captain

8:30– Chuck Garber
10:30– Ann Raue & Art Ayers

Nursery

2– Laura Bos
Kyle Bos
9– Elaine Stephens
Liam Cochran
16– Camborley Gleason
23– Joy Church
Theresa Gleason
30–



Hospitality (sign up in the Narthex)

2– Christian Ed. board
9– Mission board
16–
23– Diaconate board
30–

Financial Counters

2– Patty Brennen/Dave Daugherty
9– Aaron Strebeck/Jeff Reber
16– Ted Guimond/Wes Stephens
23– Mike Nelson/Dave Daugherty
30– Chris Valentine/Terry McGarr

Birthdays

06/02 Deryck Gruber
06/09 Beth Ayotte
06/09 Griffin Larson
06/11 Jamie Popp
06/12 Bryce Campbell
06/15 Paul Stephenson
06/16 Art Ayers
06/17 Nathan Morey
06/21 Robert Gleason
06/24 Ann Raue
06/25 Michelle Strebeck
06/29 Jason Popp
06/30 Matthew Larson
06/30 Barb Musgrove

Anniversaries

6/06 Phil & Lynda Clemons
6/10 Robert & Lynn Gabel
6/13 Jeff & Barbara Reber
6/17 Matt & Jaquelyn Bennett
6/18 Jeffrey & Lynn Dick
6/19 David & Nancy Daugherty
6/24 Troy & Beth Ayotte
6/28 Larry & Midge Lewis, 50th