

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

South Haven, MI

November 2018



**NOVEMBER 11th
ANNUAL MEETING
11:45 A.M.
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

The Annual Meeting of the church will be held on Sunday, Nov. 11th. We will elect officers, review reports and vote on a budget for 2019.

**Chili Cook-off, Nov. 10th
This event is for everyone!**

Do you have a favorite recipe that you think is the best? Well here's your chance to compete with others within the church. Sign up in the Narthex.

In order to have a chili cook-off **we need taste testers** so all are invited to come and participate helping decide who wins the first Chili Cook-off.

**Holiday Bazaar
Welcomes Santa
Claus**

The bazaar is set, and full of crafters that will have plenty of variety to choose from for that special gift you need to give for Christmas.



This year's bazaar is on Saturday, November 17th, from 9-3 p.m. Besides the crafters Al-Van will be here selling plates of cookies and the South Haven Garden Club will be selling greens plus a menagerie of homemade items.

NEW THIS YEAR - SANTA CLAUS! Santa Claus will be here to hear children's Christmas lists. For a small fee each child can get their picture taken with Santa.

Prayers for continued healing of our church family:

Nancy Garber
Lamont Dick
Jackie Protheroe,
mother of Peggy McClendon

Grieving

Family of Scott Tromotola,
son of Shirlee Clark

Family of Joanne Larson,
mother of Matt Larson



Daylight Savings time ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 4th. Clocks move back 1 hour.



Please come help!

November 10 - 16

Contacts

Mike Nelson 214-6846
Bob Linderman 214-2550



Adopt-a-Days from October

October 1st, in memory of my son Scott Tromotola, given by Shirlee Clark.

In thanks to God, from Rochelle Warshawsky

October 15th, with thanks to the church members for all their support and prayers during a difficult time, given by John Gillett

October 28th, in honor of Reformation Sunday, given by Women's Fellowship

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

How does ADOPT-A-DAY work? Pick a day, any day, and write on the big calendar in the narthex what you are celebrating or remembering. Besides writing on the calendar there are cards to fill out that are attached to the calendar. Fill one out and place it in the offering plate with your check/cash.

Contributing towards Adopt-a-day helps defray the rising costs of the utilities of the church

November Worship

We celebrate the month of November as The Season of Thanksgiving. Our colors are gold. Our Doxology is the song, Give Thanks.

Celebrate all you are thankful for during this month. Count your blessings.

Sunday, November 4th

We will celebrate with our children and youth as they present the scripture reading for us this morning. During October they have been studying the story of Paul and Silas in Prison as found in Acts 16. They have made a video to help tell the story.

While Paul and Silas are in prison, they give thanks! An amazing story. This is also a Sunday closest to All Saints Day and we will remember those who have died in the past year.

Communion will be celebrated. Beginning with Sunday, November 4th, all bread served for communion will be gluten free. This is so that everyone will be able to take of the bread on the one plate that is passed. The Diaconate approved this at their September meeting. This is another way that we communicate that all are welcome here.

Sunday, November 11th Music Sunday and Veterans Day

A special Sunday of music will help us celebrate this morning. The Blue Star Ramblers will be guest musicians. Ann Habicht will be ringing a special piece and the Chancel Choir will participate as well. In addition, we will sing a number of hymns and songs. Instead of a sermon, there will be more music.

Special Bell Ringing: On November 11, 2018, at 11:00 am, handbell musicians across America are invited to toll bells in their communities to commemorate the centennial of the armistice that brought an end to hostilities in what Americans fervently hoped had been "the war to end all wars." Ann Habicht

will have a special bell ringing at 11 a.m. during our worship. We will also ring our church bell as a part of the Bells of Peace this morning.

Following worship, the Annual Meeting of the church will take place in Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, November 18th

The children and youth of our church will present their Giving Thanks video as part of the Time with Children.

Worship will be based on the following scripture readings:

Hebrews 10:11-25 and Mark 13:1-8 - both readings speak of hope in difficult times.

Sunday, November 25th: Thanksgiving Sunday

This is the Sunday after Thanksgiving and we will celebrate it as Thanksgiving Sunday. Our hymns will be traditional Thanksgiving songs. We will dedicate memorial gifts this Sunday as one way of giving thanks.

Our scripture lessons speak about giving thanks. The story of the Ten Lepers in Luke 17:11-19 is powerful, and Paul's closing words in 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 remind us to rejoice always and give thanks in all circumstances.



**LOOKING AHEAD
TO ADVENT!!!**

Yes - Advent begins on Sunday, December 2nd. Our theme this year will be Silent Night, Holy Night. It is the 200th anniversary of this song and we will be celebrating that music throughout the season.

WOMENS FELLOWSHIP



Remember that after breakfast on the 14th we will be going to the church for Women's Fellowship. We are cleaning the kitchens.

Special Thanks To Karen & Tom Ruesink who decorates our sanctuary altar for November with beautiful autumn decorations. Karen and Tom have done this for several years and it is always appreciated and enjoyed.

Planning for 2019

November 18th all are invited during hospitality time to "brainstorm" ideas for group activities and programs for ALL ages for 2019.

The goal is to come up with a 2019 calendar of events so everyone will know what is planned through out the year to participate if they choose.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SALE

Thanks to all who helped set up, sort, price, sell, clean up, and, of course, provide the many quality items we sold this year. There are still some IOUs but the total so far is about \$1700.

A reminder to rummage staff:

Get those W-2 forms to me ASAP. 😊

Next sale is May 1-2, 2019

-Kris Ayers

Thursday Night Suppers Begin Nov. 1

The Phoenix Street dinners will begin on the first of November. Ted and Margaret Guimond are lining up workers. The first and fifth Sundays, the church provides all the servers. On the first Thursday we also play Bingo! We could use people to run the Bingo game! Contact Ted or Margaret if you are interested in helping with the suppers in any capacity.

We give thanks that the South Haven Kiwanis Club works the second Thursday and the South Haven Rotary Club works the third.

Southwest Association Fall Meeting

The Southwest Association Meeting of the Michigan Conference will be held here in South Haven on Sunday, November 4th at 2:30 p.m. There will be presentations by our youth on their trip to Haiti as well as a business meeting.



For those who would like to help hungry people enjoy a holiday meal, the Pantry is accepting food items to go into the Thanksgiving meal baskets.

Items needed include Turkey Gravy, Cream of Mushroom soup, Cranberry Sauce and stuffing mix.

Donations can be brought to the Food Pantry during the week or on Sundays. Items need to be returned by **Sunday, November 11th.**

Your help will be much appreciated.

-John & Sue Gillett

Southwest Association News

Two special events in the life of our partner churches are happening in November and December. All are welcome at these events.

Service of Ordination and Installation for The Reverend Susan Greenwood

Sunday, November 18, 2018
Refreshments / Meal at 4:30pm
Worship Service at 6:00 pm
First Congregational Church United Church
of Christ
182 South Church Street, Coloma, MI 49038

Ecclesiastical Council for Two Candidates

Saturday December 1 @ 1:00 p.m. at the
Phoenix Community Church located at 2208
Winchell Avenue in Kalamazoo.

Deb Geiger will make her presentation to be followed by Q&A by the delegates. Then, there will be a discussion and a vote to approve her for ordination.

At 2:45 Bethany Schmall will make her presentation to be followed by Q&A by the delegates. Then, there will be a discussion and a vote to approve her for ordination.

Each candidate will submit an ordination paper for review by delegates. These will be in the church office.

Our church can send 2 delegates and 1 youth delegate to the meeting. If you are interested in being a delegate to this meeting, please contact David Murphey or Pastor Dick. Anyone can attend as a visitor.

Calvin Adult Scholarship

Many years ago, two scholarship funds were established here at the church in memory of the Calvin Family. One of those continues to offer scholarships to graduates

of South Haven High School. That fund has a small committee that reviews applications. Elaine Fluck is the current chairperson. This year they awarded 18 scholarships totaling \$ 26,000.

The other fund began as a college loan fund. This was changed 25 years ago to be a scholarship for adults going back to college or trade school and was renamed, The Calvin Adult Scholarship Fund. A committee oversaw the fund and would grant individual requests. It also worked with an Adult Education Program here in South Haven. When that program closed, the fund connected with Lake Michigan College. It awarded scholarships to adults over the age of 25 returning to college. This past year, 3 scholarships of \$1,000 each were awarded. We have received thank you notes from each of those students. You can see more about this in the letter with this newsletter.

The committee that has overseen this fund agree 2 years ago that when the fund balance dropped below \$10,000, that we would donate all the money to Lake Michigan College Scholarship Fund. The fund has not had any additions for many years. The fund balance has now dropped and so the Board of Trustees have voted to send the remaining balance to the college for them to award to students until the money runs out.

We are proud of the many students we have been able to assist. These funds have been a significant blessing to many.

On behalf of the committee,
Jeffrey Dick

WHAT? NO SHOEBOX?

For years we have been filling shoeboxes for teens at Christmas time. Last year we filled 40 shoeboxes and hung 40 tags on a Christmas tree with gift ideas. This year will be a little different. We Care is putting together teen baskets that will be handed out for Christmas. We will have 80 tags hanging

(see next page)

the Christmas tree in the Narthex the later part of November.

If you miss filling a shoebox, consider taking two or more tags from the tree. Project Christmas Hope will make giving and receiving easier for We Care and all those working together.

If you have any questions, please speak with a Mission Board member.

Be Calm and Shine Bright An Advent Event for All Ages

Begin Advent with an evening of warm soup (to calm your soul) and good fellowship to brighten your night. The Board of Christian Education invites you to this yearly Advent Event on Sunday, **December 2nd** beginning at 5:30 p.m.

A soup supper will be provided along with craft and decoration projects. Two service projects will be offered this evening. The first is a care package for college students preparing for exams. These will be mailed on the day after the event. The second is a care package for First Responders at the holidays. Many fire fighters, EMTs and police officers will be working on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Our packages will be given to them on Christmas Eve/Day while they work, saying thank you to them for keeping us safe.

Our church will be assembling care packages on Sunday, Dec 2nd. You are invited to contribute items to these packages, as well as come and help assemble them. The items needed are:

First Responder Care Packages - For police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians at the holidays.

Chapstick/lip balm , Small size Hand Sanitizer, Fun Size candy, Mints, Hand warmers, Emergen-c/Halls Vitamin C drops, Snacks (Protein bars, trail mix, jerky, granola bars, etc) ****no peanuts**** Individual pack-

ets of pain reliever (Advil, Tylenol), Small bottled water or sports drink^{[L-1] [SEP]}

College Students' Final Exam Care Packages - For students studying and stressing about finals.

Fun Size candy. Mints, Chapstick/lip balm, Emergen-c/Halls Vitamin C drops Snacks (Protein bars, trail mix, jerky, granola bars, etc) ****no peanuts**** Individual packets of pain reliever (Advil, Tylenol), Tissues, Pens, Pencils, Highlighters, Post-it Notes of different shapes and sizes, \$5 Starbucks or Biggby gift cards.

Please bring your items to the church by December 1st.

Hospice at Home, a part of Caring Circle, invites you to join us in lighting up South Haven in a beautiful holiday display. Luminaries will be placed from City Hall down to the beach for the Holiday in the Park celebration event on Friday, November 23rd.

Luminaries can be purchased for a \$ 5 donation in honor of a friend, family member or even a pet.

Order forms can be picked up at the front desk in the Hospice at Home South Haven office.

History of Veterans Day



World War I - known at the time as "The Great War" - officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars."

An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I.

In 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Veterans of our congregation:

Donna Capps
Wes Stephens
John Long
Don Arnott
Jonathon Larson
Tom Larson
Robert Gleason
Matt Larson
Larry Wittkop
Bob Sollman
Chuck Garber

Although we thank our Veterans, we would like you to keep in your prayers those who are currently serving:

Ashley Scott
Dan Antinucci
Rob Wheeler
Jacob Barczak
Zach Blankford
Ryan Lloyd



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C O L L E G E

FOUNDATION

October 15, 2018

Rev. Jeffrey S. Dick
First Congregational Church UCC

Dear Rev. Dick:

It is with pleasure that I write to announce the recipients of the 2018-2019 *First Congregational Church Scholarship* established here at Lake Michigan College.

Kimberly Carter is pursuing an Associate in General Studies, Pre-Nursing
April Filbrandt is pursuing an Associate in General Studies
Concepcion Ortiz-Morales is in the Nursing program

As you are aware, private support is vital to advancing the College's mission of assuring accessibility to students who have dreams of advancing their own educational and career goals.

On behalf of everyone here at the College associated with the scholarship program, thank you for your generous support of this scholarship and these aspiring scholars through the *First Congregational Church Scholarship*.

Kind regards,

Rita Whise
Manager, Advancement Programs and Stewardship
Lake Michigan College Foundation

OFFICE NOTE:

The Thank you notes (letters) from the scholarship recipients can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Lay Assistants

4– Chris Valentine
11– (Music Sunday)
18– Sue Murphey
25– Terri Wakild

Acolytes

4– Erin Bos/Kyle Bos
11– Liam Cochran and
Chloe McNicholas
18– Kitty Brennen
25– Camborley Gleason

Ushers

4– Doug & Patty Gruber
11– Don & Elaine Kitchin
18– Bob & Shirley Sollman
25– Don & Elaine Kitchin

Nursery

4– Elena Garcia
Yamil Garcia
11– Ted & Margaret Guimond
18– Louise Wepfer
Chloe McNicholas
25– Art & Kris Ayers

Financial Counters

4– Patty Brennen
Aaron Strebeck
11– Jeff Reber
Terry McGarr
18– Ted Guimond
Marcia Claggett
25– Mike Nelson
Wes Stephens

Looking at November

Birthdays

11/01 Barb Wittkop
11/02 Maris Underwood
11/02 Michael Hoyt
11/02 Kyle Bos
11/04 Jeffrey Dick
11/04 Felimon Saucedo
11/08 Lauryn Daugherty
11/09 Bill Brennen, III
11/10 David Wellever
11/10 Mark McClendon
11/14 Sydney Daugherty
11/20 Phil Clemons
11/23 Kitty Brennen
11/26 Lynn Dick

Anniversaries

11/12 John & Darlene Long
11/18 Mike & Nancy Nelson
11/30 Doug & Donna Schnepf

Deacons of the Month

Sue Murphey
(847) 471-6800

Zach Hanner
598-7210

