

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

*South Haven, MI*

July 2019

## The Traveler

“Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you.” —Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

The traveler is always an outsider, visiting new places and adjusting to customs and cultures outside their own experience. Jesus warns the disciples that not everyone will welcome them on their journey. We too, will suffer rejection on our journey as Jesus' followers. Jesus wants us to make the most of the places we are welcomed and not worry so much about the places that turn us away. It is the places of welcome where an outsider becomes an insider. Embrace them, find them and create them for others.



*Prayers for continued healing of our church family:*

***Grieving***

Family of Don Arnott, husband of Marilyn Arnott



**Pastor Dick on vacation**

Pastor Dick will be vacation from July 8<sup>th</sup> through August 1<sup>st</sup>. He will spend some time traveling and a week with his mom who will be coming to Grand Rapids. He will also be going to Cub Scout Camp with his grandson Donnell, for 3 nights and then two nights with his granddaughter Raziya (*prayers for good weather while spending a week in a tent are requested*).

During this time area clergy will be available to assist with pastoral emergencies. Please contact the church office if there is a need.

**Adopt-a-Days from June**

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>**, celebrating the graduation class of 2019, from Women's Fellowship

**June 9<sup>th</sup>**, in celebration of Jim & Heather Strebeck's 1st anniversary, given by his family

**June 25<sup>th</sup>**, in celebration of Michelle Strebeck's birthday, given by her family

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



Please come help!

***July 27–August 2***

***Contacts***

*Mike Nelson 214-6846*

*Bob Linderman 214-2550*

## Worship in July

### **July 7<sup>th</sup>: Jeffrey Preaching**

Communion will be celebrated at both services.

Scripture: Galatians 6:1-16 and Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Special Music at 10:30: SH Men's Chorus

### **July 14<sup>th</sup>: Guest Minister**

The Rev. Mary Beth Moran Cross will be preaching this morning. Mary Beth is ordained in the United Church of Christ and serves as the Chaplain/Spiritual Care Coordinator at PACE of Southwest Michigan in St. Joseph.

Special Music at 10:30: Nancy Nelson

### **July 21<sup>st</sup>: Guest Speaker**

Melanie Hooker will be our guest speaker this morning. She is the Executive Director of the Van Buren Domestic Violence Coalition. Many of our members support the work of this agency and they have requested that she share about the important work of this agency.

Special Music at 10:30: Alex Davis

### **July 28<sup>th</sup>: Guest Preacher: Tere Kreuger**

Tere is a MID (Minister in Discernment) with the Southwest Association preparing for ordination. She lives here in South Haven and is a member at First Congregational in Kalamazoo. Pastor Dick is her mentor.

Special Music at 10:30: Louise Wepfer  
(tentatively)

## **World Religions and Religious Questions**

This lecture series has been very well attended. Dave Tidwell has presented some solid information and some personal stories. There are three more in the series.

July 2 - Hinduism

July 16 - Taoism

July 30 - The Problem of Evil

This series will be offered at First Congregational Church from 11 a.m. to noon. The public is invited to attend.

**CONTACT BOB  
LINDERMAN,  
214-2550, TO HELP  
WITH PARKING,  
THE EVENING OF  
JULY 3RD, FOR THE  
FIREWORKS.**



## **Tuesday Prayer Group**

The Prayer Group 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:

July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>  
August 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>

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](mailto: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.

## Women's Fellowship July activity

Holland Bowl Company

Cranes for lunch

Wed. July 10, 9:30 church parking lot

We will carpool to Holland to tour the Bowl Company. They make wooden bowls from tree to finished. Then back to Fennville for lunch and fellowship.

All the women of the congregation and their guests are invited.

More information contact Karen Ruesink 637-6141.

## We Care Fund Raiser

We Care will be serving ice cream sundaes at the Rhythm on the River event on July 20th. Jeffrey and Lynn Dick will be helping to dish out ice cream. They are looking for 2 or 3 others to help them. Let Pastor Dick know if you can help. All are welcome to come down for some ice cream.



July 20th from 6 to 8 pm

## Summer Ministry Opportunities

Highway Clean Up - Saturday July 20<sup>th</sup>!

We will meet at 9 a.m. at the Ranch House Ribs on M-140 on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Bring gloves. Trash bags and safety vests will be handed out.

## To Whom It May Concern:

Just a note on behalf of the board members of the Christian Science Church to thank you for letting us use your parking lot for our Regional Meeting April 26th. People were grateful to park there. All went smoothly.

Thank you!

With appreciation,  
Sandra Tyrrell, Clerk

## The church received the following

**letter** from St. Paul's Bible Church regarding Joyce & Walter Pilditch.

Dear First Congregational Church,

I am pleased to inform you that we have enclosed a monetary gift to you in support of your ministry. St. Paul's Bible Church Benevolence Fund is able to make this gift because of receiving a donation this month from Joyce Pilditch.

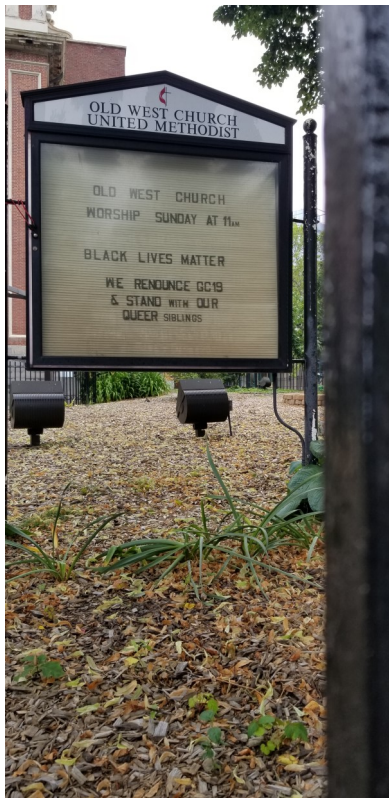
Joyce wishes us to express to you the blessing she and her husband, Walter, received from the preaching of Pastor Dick.

In Christ,  
Tom Bacon, Benevolence Treasurer





# Mission Trip to Boston



Host church



Pastor Sara of Old West Church



# Looking at July

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

## Acolytes

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

10:30– Alice Warfield

## Nursery

7– Dave & Sue Murphey  
14– Theresa Gleason  
    Camborley Gleason  
21– Lynn Dick + 1  
28– Keri & Terry McGarr

## Hospitality

7–  
14– Trustees  
21–  
28–

## Financial Counters

7– Patty Brennen  
    Terry McGarr  
14– Aaron Strebeck  
    Marcia Claggett  
21– Ted Guimond  
    Jeff Reber  
28– Mike Nelson  
    Wes Stephens

## **Birthdays**

07/01 Stuart Comiskey  
07/02 Janice Peterson  
07/03 Jim Mears  
07/04 Betsy Greenman  
07/04 Kay Whale  
07/04 Hannah Lyon  
07/06 Mary Pietenpol  
07/08 Louise Wepfer  
07/08 Susan Meyer  
07/08 Elena Garcia  
07/09 Ethel Stephenson  
07/11 Larry Lewis  
07/11 Jeanne Lyon  
07/17 Cheryl Gauntlett  
07/17 Laura Bos  
07/18 Keri McGarr  
07/18 Yamil Garcia  
07/20 Elaine Stephens  
07/20 Linda Olsen  
07/20 Celeste Wheeler  
07/23 Pat Martorano  
07/24 Landon Bradford  
07/25 Rick Olsen  
07/25 Patty Brennen  
07/26 Bob Linderman  
07/27 Greg Meyer  
07/28 Jacqui Cowles  
07/31 Marian O’Niel



## **Anniversaries**

07/02 Terry & Keri McGarr  
07/09 Alan & Jeanne Lyon–25th  
07/11 Larry & Barb Wittkop–55th  
07/12 Greg & Susan Meyer  
07/16 Tom & Abby Larson  
07/31 Randy & Melissa Spies–20th