

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

South Haven, MI

November 2019



NOVEMBER 10th
ANNUAL MEETING
11:45 A.M.
FELLOWSHIP HALL

The Annual Meeting of the church will be held following worship. At this meeting we will hear a financial report, approve the budget for 2020, and elect officers. There will also be a special presentation on hiring a new staff person to work with young adults and youth.

Do plan to attend this 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. Deadline for donations is **Sunday, November 17th.**

Your help will be much appreciated.



Prayers for continued healing of our church family:

Marian O'Niel
Len Walter
Rick Olsen
Rick Siler—Countryside
Steve Siler
Jack Martinke, father of Lynn Dick



Sunday, November 3rd: Daylight Savings Time Ends! Turn your clocks back one hour so as not to be early for church.

In the afternoon, at 2:30 pm, the Southwest Association will hold its fall meeting in St Joe.

All are welcome at Zion Church.

Adopt-a-Days from October

October 13th, thank you to the members of the Diaconate. We appreciate all you do. -from your friends

October 27th, in celebration of Reformation Sunday, given by Women's Fellowship.

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

Project Christmas Hope

This outreach program is being sponsored by the Mission board.

A small Christmas tree will be up in the Narthex with tags on them. Instructions on what you need to do will be available.



Please come help!

November 9 - 15

Contacts

Mike Nelson 214-6846
Bob Linderman 214-2550

Project Christmas Hope begins November 10th!



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.

Our scripture readings for the first 3 Sundays will come from 2 Thessalonians during this month. You are invited to read the entire letter (it is not very long!) The last Sunday we will celebrate as Thanksgiving Sunday and we will read from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

Many thanks to Karen and Tom Ruesink for once again providing our altar decorations for November.

Sunday, November 3rd

Communion

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Sunday, November 10th

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Sunday, November 17th

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Sunday, November 24th

Thanksgiving Sunday

Philippians 4:1-13

Communion

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.

Many thanks to Paul and Philip Rood for hosting another wonderful Hay Ride. Weather was beautiful. Over 65 people were in attendance.



Thursday Night Suppers Begin Nov. 7th

Ted and Margret are lining up workers. The first Thursday of the month the church provides all the servers; we also play Bingo! We could use people to run the Bingo game!

Contact Ted or Margret if you are interested in helping with the suppers in any capacity.

We give thanks to the following helpers:

South Haven Kiwanis Club 2nd Thursday
South Haven Rotary Club 3rd Thursday
Scouts 4th Thursdays
Beta Sorority 5th Thursday

The **November Church Council meeting** will be held on Tuesday, November 19th due that the normal meeting day is in Thanksgiving week.



Youth at Hayride

At Sunday, November 17 worship we welcome a special guest, Chrispin Gabriel and his family from the Good Shepherd Orphanage in Haiti. Chrispin grew up in the orphanage and was one of the first students to be sent to the US to attend college. He now works in the US and is the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the orphanage. His wife Kristen is the Secretary for the board. They live in Kentucky and will be speaking during worship this Sunday.

They will also be with us following worship to share more stories about the current situation in Haiti.

Please help us welcome them on this Sunday.

Sunday November 24th Hanging of the Greens after worship

Come and enjoy some chili and salad for lunch. Then all ages are invited to help decorate the church for Advent and Christmas. We will be setting up trees in the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. You can make decorations to hang on the trees and to take home.

All ages are encouraged to attend.

Luminaries

During Holiday in the Park on **November 29, 2019**, downtown South Haven, Caring Circle will prepare and display pre-ordered personalized luminaries in honor of someone special. These beautiful personalized luminaries will line the streets from City Hall down to Kalamazoo Street.

Luminaries are available for \$5.00 each and can be ordered online at <https://www.spectrumhealthlakeland.org/caring-circle/get-involved/luminary-order>

Order forms are also available at many downtown businesses, as well as at the Caring Circle office located at 05055 Blue Star Highway. **All orders should be received by November 20th.**

[First Congregational Church has offered our services to Caring Circle Hospice to setup the luminaries on Friday, November 29th from 2 to 4 pm. This will include putting sand and candles in each bag and then placing them from our church down Phoenix St. to Kalamazoo Street. **Volunteers are needed** to help with this project. Contact Pastor Dick if you are able to help.]



NEWS FROM WE CARE

To make this wonderful (but sometimes crazy season) flow smoothly, we welcome Donna Saucedo as our new Office and Outreach Coordinator, and bilingual specialist. She joins Lynn Dick, Debbie McPike and myself, serving primarily in the South Haven Office.

Donna had the opportunity to serve 2 families who only spoke Spanish on her first day! We are glad that she is here to help We Care better serve our Hispanic community.

Stop by the office to meet Donna - she'd love to say hi. She works Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., year round.



Felimon, Donna, and Jocelyn Saucedo



LOOKING AHEAD TO ADVENT!!!

Advent begins on Sunday, December 1st!!!
Our theme this year will be Joy! It is the 300th anniversary of the carol, "Joy to the World!"

This song we will be a part of our celebration throughout Advent and Christmas.

Holiday Bazaar—Saturday, November 23rd

Crafts, greens, and cookies will fill Fellowship Hall from 9-3 p.m. There will be a few crafters in the entry hallway.

The main attraction is the Al-Van Cookie Caper. You'll be able to choose your favorite plate of assorted cookies.

If you know a crafter that would like to join us that day have them contact the church office to see if there are any spots available.

[Homemade crafts only. No business vendors, i.e. Pampered Chef, Tupperware, etc.]



Nice apples from the Rood farm

In the works

An updated Sound System is in being looked into. The next meeting will be held on November 12th at 6 p.m..

Hello from (Novella Barden) Russell Point, Ohio. I have an apartment here and am about 10 miles from Becky and family, and 5 hours closer to Brian and his family in North Carolina.

My new address is:

601 Lincoln Blvd., Apt. 124
Russell Point, OH 43448

The Morey's recently returned from Hawaii visiting their son Jacob. They brought back a special greeting card addressed to his church family, and also some photos of Hawaii.

The church card read:

Dear Church ohana (family)

I just wanted to say "hi" and see how everyone is doing. I know its been a while since I have seen all of you, but you are all in my prayers everyday!

I hope to see you all soon!

A hui hou

Jacob also sent some special coffee home for us. It is to be used for Hospitality.

[The greeting card and photos are posted on the south bulletin board in the Narthex.]

Seed of Hope Scholarship Soup and Salad Supper
Thursday, November 7, 2019
6:00—8:00 p.m.
Lake Michigan College in South Haven

Variety of soups, salads, breads and desserts available.

Suggested donation of \$ 20/person. Tickets are available at A & D One Stop on Indiana Ave. or Wolverine Hardware.

Looking at November

Lay Assistants

3– Sophia Cochran
10– Doug Gruber
17– Larry Wittkop
24–

Usher Captains:

Sue Murphey
Nancy Daugherty

Nursery

3– Elena Garcia
Yamil or Elian Garcia
10– Donna Saucedo
Felimon Saucedo
17– Laura Bos
Erin or Kyle Bos
24– Theresa Gleason
Camborley Gleason

Hospitality

3– Mission board
10– Trustees board
17– Chris Valentine
24– Christian Ed. board

Financial Counters

3– Ted Guimond
Terry McGarr
10– Mike Nelson
Doug Gruber
17– Chris Valentine
Marcia Claggett
24– Patty Brennen
Jeff Reber

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, 30th
11/30 Doug & Donna Schnepf

Deacons of the Month

Sue Murphey
(847) 471-6800

Nancy Daugherty
637-7316

