

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

South Haven, MI

October 2018

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering

The Mission Board will be collecting the NIN offering between Oct. 7th and Oct. 28th. You will find envelopes in the pew.

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry(CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries(JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Funding is provided through donations to the Neighbors in Need offering.

In addition to collecting this special offering, I invite you to think about your neighbors and what their needs may be, raking, gutters cleaned, shopping, etc. Can we be of help? Let the Mission Board or Pastor Dick know of these needs. Let's truly make October a "Neighbors in Need" month.

Thank you,
Mission Board

Hayride at the Roods
October 14th @ 1 p.m.

The annual Hayride at the Rood Farm is ready to go. **Hay rides will begin at 1:30 p.m.** Following the hayride there will be cider and desserts to share. Bring a friend to this fabulous event.

This event has been taking place for 30 years. It is an enjoyable event for all ages.



Prayers for continued healing of our church family:

Nancy Garber
John Gillett



Adopt-a-Days from September

September 22nd, celebrating the first day of Autumn, given by Donna Capps.

September 23rd, to the success of our Stewardship Gatherings, given by Women's Fellowship.

September 30th, in celebration of my 15 years at Singing Sands RV Park and all the wonderful people I've met there and my church community, given by Bonnie Deke.

Artwork Dedication

On Sunday, October 7th, 2 p.m. there will be a dedication of an artwork in memory of Neil Valentine, given by his wife, Chris.

This artwork will be part of the landscape of the Bailey Museum.



Set up will be on Sunday, October 7, after church.

Monday and Tuesday will be workdays.

Sales will be:

Wednesday, October 10, 4-7 p.m.

Thursday, October 11, 9-12 p.m.

12:30-3 pm \$4 bag
3:05-4 pm free

We will accept donations until noon on Tuesday. Make sure items are CLEAN, have linen sizes marked, sets bound together, and like items grouped. Indicate if electronics work OR NOT.

Clearly mark bins with your name if you want them back. Better yet, sort out items and take bin with you.

October Worship

During October we will be looking at the Gospel of Mark. On three of the Sundays we will also read from the book of Job. The Adult Class that meets at 9:30 will be reviewing these stories. All are welcome.

October 7th World Communion Sunday

Genesis 2:18-24; Mark 10:13-16

We will be celebrating with Christians around the world this Sunday as a sign of our unity in the Body of Christ. This will be represented in the many different types of bread used for communion.

October 14th 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Job 23:1-9, 16-17 and Mark 10:17-31

The Hayride at the Roods to follow at 1:30

October 21st 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Job 38:1-7, (34-41) and Mark 10:35-45

October 28th: Reformation Sunday - Wear Something Red

Job 42:1-6, 10-17 and Mark 10:46-52



Confirmation Class is meeting this month. On October 7th they will be going to Warner Camp to participate in the Ropes Course there.

On October 21st the class will be learning about the structure of the church in preparation for the Annual Meeting.

Women's Fellowship New Day

We have **changed the day** of Women's Fellowship to the **second Wednesday** of the month at 9:30 in the lounge. This meeting will take place immediately following our breakfast get-together at Six Chicks.



Since we will be coming straight from breakfast, we will not have the usual hospitality available as snacks. We will however have coffee and tea and anything others have brought.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

*A **prayer shawl**, in Christianity, is a piece of cloth blessed in honor of a saint, angel, or deceased person. They are blessed by the clergy and can be informally blessed through prayer by the laity. They are to be given to a person who is ill, injured, or in bad fortune.^[1] They may also be given to people for celebrating events such as childbirth, baptism, or confirmation. (Wikipedia)*

Since its beginning in February of 2011, the First Congregational Church UCC Prayer Shawl Ministry has been creating and distributing close to forty shawls. Several Prayer Shawls have even been created to honor a deceased loved one.

If you know if someone who has had bad fortune or perhaps a celebration in their lives, please let the office know. We would love for them to be blessed by receiving a shawl created with love and prayer.

We also have a need for a donation of yarn or money to buy yarn to help this ministry along. We currently are gathering those who would like to help in this ministry. Please contact Margaret Guimond or Denise Muck. If you would be interested in helping to make or distribute Prayer Shawls.

The Lord calls us to minister in many different ways. Is this your calling?



Holy Hospitality Help the monsters feed the hungry

The Youth of the church are sponsoring a Halloween Maze at the church. This will take place on Halloween, Oct 31st from 5:30 to 7. There will be a scary room and a not so scary room, as well as a Mad Scientist display. The cost to enter will be a food item, to help the monsters stock the food pantry.

All middle school and high school youth are invited to participate. They will be working on this on Sundays after worship, with the bug set up day Oct 28th.

You can help the monsters: There are three ways you can help

- 1) Come dressed up in costume on Halloween.
- 2) No trick or treaters at your house? Bring some candy to hand out here at church. Your donation of candy will be greatly appreciated.
- 3) Come and help hand out cider and coffee to adults, or candy to children that evening.

Haven Harvest Festival

The South Haven Visitors Bureau is hosting the **Haven Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 20**, from 1:00 - 4:00 pm, at Dyckman Park. Once again our church has been invited to make pies to sell. The price will be \$2 for a sample and \$15 for a whole pie. All proceeds will go to our church.

We want to make at least 30 pies to sell. Pie shells are at church and so will pie boxes. We also need four people willing to sell pies that day.

We can make apple pies and one or two other types. Our hope is to have apples at church for people to take home.

Let the church office know if you can bake a pie or two and if you can help sell.

Many thanks.

ADOPT-A-DAY

In the weekly bulletin there is usually a section entitled ADOPT-A-DAY. Do you know what it's for?

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

Hospitality after worship

Hospitality is provided each Sunday following worship, which I'm sure you've enjoyed more than once.

Beginning in November, each board, along with Women's Fellowship and the Men's Breakfast group will be in charge of a Sunday. Any individual can assist them, or replace the Board by contacting the church office.

The Church Council hopes this will provide continuity during the year.

Mission Thank You

Your gifts to missions are used to support various mission centered organizations in our community and throughout our world. Here are some comments from recent thank you notes that were received. The letters are on the bulletin board in the Narthex



We Care I.N.C.
In the Name of Christ

Susan Trabucchi, the Interim Executive Director wrote to thank the church for its donations of \$750. She wrote that "It is a true privilege to be serving We Care I.N.C. at this exciting moment of transition and change. We are shoring up and strengthening the 36-year foundation that you helped build, and with your continued support, We Care will be loving and serving our neighbors in need well into the future.

Thank you again for all you do to help us follow Christ's command "to love our neighbors as ourselves."

Thank you so much for your participation in our Annual Diaper/Wipe Drive. The support you gave allows us to serve our young pregnant and parenting teens throughout the entire year. Without the community's assistance, we would not be able to offer the Teen Hope Program.

Sincerely, Hope Parent Resource
Center Team



We received two thank you letters from the Center(ed) on Wellness Counseling Center, which has an office here at our church. The first was for our donation in memory of Linda Chapman, wife of Glenn Chapman who has served as a counselor here at our church for over 30 years.

The second was for our quarterly gift to support those who cannot afford counseling.

Both gifts were greatly appreciated.



Leaving for the winter?

Please make sure the church office has your address so that you can continue to receive any mailings from the church.

Thank you

Theresa Gleason is our **new Nursery Coordinator**. She is looking for 10 to 12 volunteers to staff the nursery on a rotational basis. Our goal is to have one adult and one youth helper each Sunday, September through May. If we have 112 volunteers, you serve 3 times during the year.

Pastor Dick is willing to be one of the 12 if someone will preach for him those Sundays!

Speak with Theresa!

United Church of Christ News

.The Annual Meeting of the Michigan Conference UCC will be held on October 12 & 13 at First Congregational UCC, Charlotte, featuring Keynote Speaker, Rev. Dr. Alice Hunt. Dr. Hunt is the Immediate Past President, Chicago Theological Seminary.

This year's Annual Meeting has more of a traditional format with Friday bringing some Continued Education time, some workshops, lunch (at the church or on your own - within walking distance), resolution and budget hearings, and an Award Banquet planned for Friday evening at The Center (804 S. Cochran Ave.) - located just a few minutes drive from the church.

Saturday begins with a continental breakfast, worship with Rev. Dr. Alice Hunt preaching, lunch (at the church or on your own), plenary, and lots of excitement and energy this year brought by youth returning from the Great Lake Regional Youth Event!

Pastor Dick will be attending this conference. If you would like to attend as a delegate from the church, speak with Dave Murphey or Pastor Dick.

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.

We will need greeters for that day and people to provide hospitality. Do speak with Dave Murphey or Pastor Dick if you can help.

Lay Assistants

7– Theresa Gleason
14– Laura Bos
21– Terry McGarr
28– Celeste Gruber

Looking at October

Acolytes

7– Erin Bos
 Kyle Bos
14– Camborley Gleason
21– Chloe McNicholas
28– Kitty Brennen

Nursery

(sign up in the Narthex)

Hospitality

7– Jeff & Denise Muck
14– the Mission Board
21– Susan Murphey
28– Women's Fellowship

Financial Counters

7– Jeff Reber
 Dave Daugherty
14– Ted Guimond
 Terry McGarr
21– Mike Nelson
 Jeff Reber
28– Chris Valentine
 Wes Stephens

Birthdays

10/01 Shirlee Clark
10/01 Dick Brodhagen
10/03 Josh Dick
10/05 Jasmine Dick
10/05 William Brennen, IV
10/09 Benjamin Meyer
10/09 Jacob Meyer
10/10 Bennett Larson
10/11 Midge Lewis
10/15 John Gillett
10/15 Thomas Larson
10/16 Elinor Frost
10/18 Jacob Morey
10/21 Lynda Clemons
10/23 Holly Cochran
10/25 Gail Brodhagen
10/25 Jane Strebeck
10/26 Don Kitchin
10/28 Elaine Fluck
10/31 Chuck Garber



Anniversaries

10/08 David & Juanita Wellever
10/15 Robert & Janice Peterson
10/25 Michael & Laura Bos

Deacons of the Month

Celeste Wheeler
214-7806

Joe Nelson
447-0670