



OCTOBER 2023

## LET'S GO ON A HAYRIDE



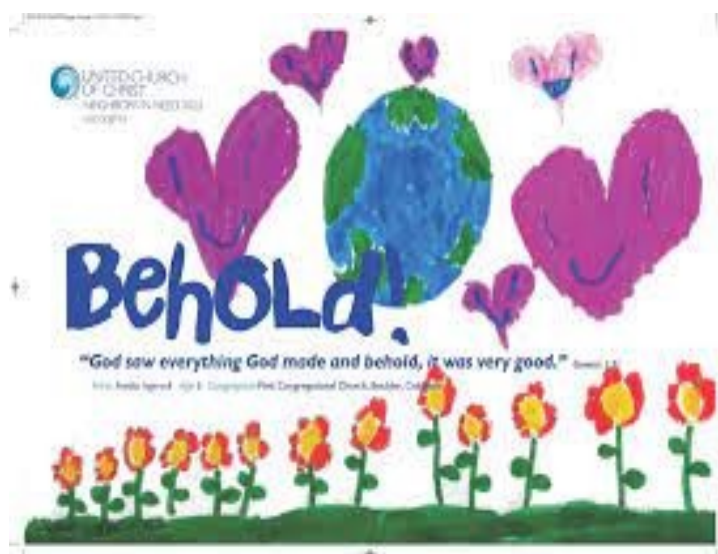
AT THE ROOD FARM  
OCTOBER 1st 2 PM  
ALL AGES WELCOME!

**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.

You will find envelopes in the pew. The NIN offering will be collected between Oct. 1st and Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your support,  
Mission Board



*Prayers for continued healing of our church family:*

Art Ayers  
Joyce Thompson  
Rick Olsen  
Donna Capps  
Mary Pietenpol



### **Birthdays**

10/01 Sue Winter  
10/15 John Gillett  
10/18 Jacob Morey  
10/22 Dani Veenstra  
10/23 Holly Cochran  
10/25 Jane Strebeck  
10/26 Don Kitchin  
10/28 Elaine Fluck  
10/31 Chuck Garber

### **Anniversaries**

10/15 Robert & Janice Peterson  
10/25 Michael & Laura Bos, 20th



The new address directory is out! You can find printed copies in the Narthex.

If you would like an electronic copy, call the church office to request one.

**Get ready for another fun  
Family Fellowship evening!  
October 1st at 5pm...**

...for a potluck dinner. Please bring a dish to pass and ideas for future fun activities.

After dinner we will be having a "get to know you" session - speed dating style!

All ages are invited!



**Corn weaving craft**

Women of the church, join together on **Wednesday, Oct. 11, at 1 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. There will be an ear of corn weaving craft. Materials and instructions will be provided.

There will be different colors of reed and you can make as many as you'd like.

In order to make sure there are enough supplies we ask you to **sign up by Sunday, October 1st.** A sample of the craft is in the Narthex by the sign up sheet.

You may also call Kris Ayers to sign up.  
637-8762

**October 22, 2 p.m.  
UCC SW Association  
Annual Mtg.  
at Portage UCC**

**October 28, 9-3 p.m.  
UCC Michigan Conference  
Annual Meeting  
Plymouth UCC, in  
Grand Rapids**

As members of the United Church of Christ, we are allowed to send two adult delegates to these meetings. By attending, information can be brought back and shared with our congregation, as to what is happening within our association and state of Michigan.

If you are interested in representing our church, please let Pastor Dave know so you can be registered. An information packet will be available for the representatives who are planning to attend.

**MISSING**

We are missing SIX white tablecloths that are used in Fellowship Hall. Please return them as soon as possible.

**Thank you!  
Women's Fellowship**



**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!



Guest Speaker  
**Mary Jo Schnell**

**Executive Director**  
of the **OutCenter**  
of Southwest Michigan

**Come**

**Listen**

**Learn**

**Sun., Oct. 22, 2023 12:15 pm**

**The Goal of this presentation is to.....**

Provide the knowledge needed to help create and maintain an equitable culture that respects and values LGBTQ+ persons.

**Objectives include:**

- \* Review of terminology and provide definitions
- \* Outline initial best practices and guidance for participants
- \* Provide time for questions to ensure the best understanding can be achieved
- \* Discuss situations and, together, put knowledge into practice as we develop informed, respectful and appropriate responses

\*

**Come Join Us!**  
**at First Congregational Church UCC**  
**Fellowship Hall**  
**651 Phoenix St. South Haven, MI 49090**