

# Steepleviews

First Congregational Church of Frankfort  
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Frankfort, MI 49635 (231) 352-7909

Website: [www.fccfrankfort.org](http://www.fccfrankfort.org)  
Rev. Dinah Haag: [pastor431@gmail.com](mailto:pastor431@gmail.com)  
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January 2019

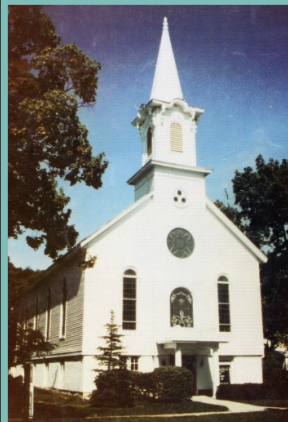
## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 01 Jessie Grant  
Pat Hessler  
Amy & Mark Steigerwald
- 02 Dick & Joanne Brown
- 03 Mason Gokey
- 9 Abrianna Nostrandt  
Murphy Yang
- 10 Naomi Kolehmainen
- 14 Melissa Koenig
- 15 Carsen Nostrandt
- 16 Amy Steigerwald  
Charlie Ottinger
- 17 Cheryl Acklin
- 18 Brian Nostrandt  
Evelyn Osborn
- 19 Chris Porter
- 20 Jay Peregrine
- 21 Levi Hubbard  
John King  
Jacob MacKenzie  
Joshua MacKenzie  
Sterling Porter
- 22 Bill Bruinsma  
Jan Condon  
Betty Milliron
- 24 Ron Phillips  
Kay Van Order
- 25 Kimberly Gilbert
- 26 Andrea Frost  
Pat Katz  
Julie Robinson  
Our Church Family
- 28 Hugh Hessler
- 31 Cory & Jessica Baklarz

2019



- January 01 **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**
- Jan 03 **De-Decorating the Sanctuary**
- Jan 06 **Dick & Joanne Brown's 70th Anniversary Celebration**
- Jan 12 **The Gathering at the Parsonage**
- Jan 16 **Al's Academy**
- Jan 20 **Nursing Care Facility Worship**
- Jan 26 **Our Church's Anniversary**
- Jan 27 **Annual Meeting & Potluck**



## Our Annual Meeting & Potluck Lunch

will follow the Worship Service  
**Sunday, January 27, 2019**

Copies of the Annual Report will be available January 14th at the sanctuary doors. Proxy ballots are available at the end of the Report.

# Pastor's Page

The crooked will be made straight,  
and rough places made smooth....  
Bear fruits worthy of repentance.

One is coming with a  
winnowing fork in hand,  
to clear the threshing floor  
and to gather the wheat in the granary;  
and to burn the chaff  
with unquenchable fire.

— Luke 3.5, 8, 17

Don't be afraid. John isn't threatening you.  
He's setting you free, relieving you  
of the stuff that messes you up.

What are the rough places in you  
that need to be made smooth,  
the crooked places  
that need straightening out?  
Surrender them to God.

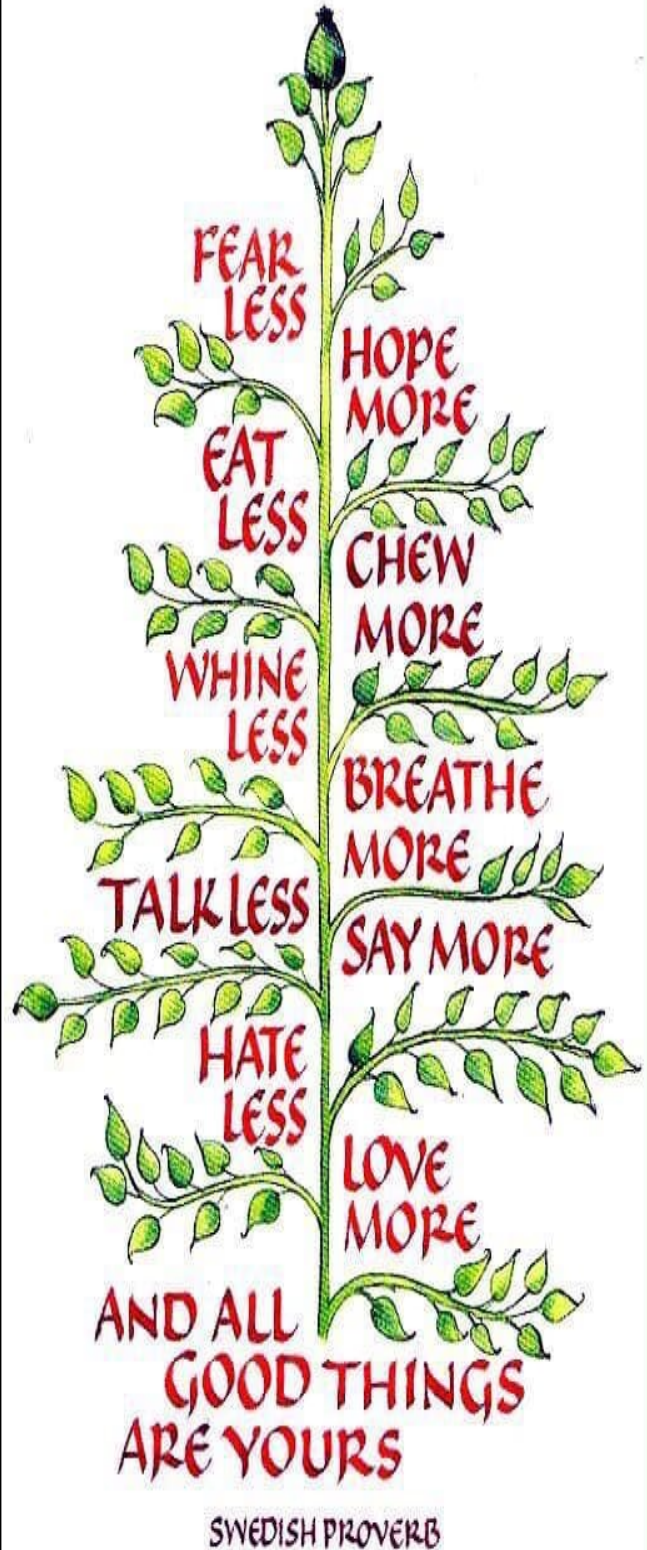
What are the lies that clutter up your head,  
the fears that infect your heart?  
Let them be winnowed out and burned.

And what are the gifts you don't share,  
the second coat you don't give away,  
the despair you try to sell, overpriced?  
Let God gently take them from your hands.

Christ comes with the music of love  
in his heart.

Let go of that suit of armor,  
attached as you are to it.  
You can be free now.  
Throw it off, and dance.

Stephan Garnaas-Holmes





**Coffee with Dinah Is Back!**  
**Tuesdays at 2:00 at**  
**Petals and Perks**

If coffee's not your thing, they have tea and other beverages, and she'll pop for those, too. Seriously. drop by and bring a friend.



*Dick and Joanne  
 Brown's 70th  
 Wedding Anniversary  
 Celebration*

Come celebrate with them after the Worship Service on Sunday, January 6th for coffee and cake.



**Al's Academy**  
**"The Alamo"**

Wednesday, Jan 16th 5:30 p.m.  
 Frankfort Congregational  
 Church Dining Room

While you're at it, join Al for an informative discussion and meal. All this is free, so bring your family, friends and neighbors for a friendly evening.



Join us for the first "Gathering" of this year at the parsonage, on Saturday, January 12th from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Please bring a dish to pass and your own beverage. Dinnerware will be provided.



# Steepleviews

## FCCF Council Meeting Minutes December 12, 2018

The Minutes from the November 14 meeting were reviewed. With no corrections noted, the Minutes were approved as presented.

### **Treasurer's Report:** Dinah Haag for Andy Mollema

- |                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Offerings for November: | \$ 9,621.00  |
| 2. Expenses for November:  | \$12,475.63  |
| 3. Carryover for November: | -\$ 1,209.02 |

There were a couple of items of note: 1) Concerning Pastor Dinah's retirement - 3/4 of the Account has been funded; 1/4 will be added in December; and 2) Pastor Dinah will print out the 2018 disbursement totals from the Baird Funds and email to Council members. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

### **Committee Reports**

**Finance:** Judy Welch - See Treasurer's Report

**Missions:** Andy Mollema - This account remains fully funded.

**Nominating:** Myra Elias - The new Slate of Council members for 2019 has been approved.

**Outreach:** Myra Elias - 1) Caroling at our long term facilities and the Gathering afterward at Hirschfeld's is scheduled for December 19; 2) The movie "Peter Rabbit" will be shown at the Garden Theater on December 29 courtesy of FCCF; and 3) Myra Elias suggested that, beginning in the new year, we focus again on visiting those who live alone or cannot make it to church services.

**Property:** Andrea Frost - 1) The first air conditioning unit has been installed in the Sanctuary with the second to be installed the week after next; 2) Pastor Dinah gave the committee a review of our church's insurance policy from Church Mutual; and 3) The carpets have been cleaned.

**Women's Fellowship:** Mary Reed - 1) The Silver Tea was a big success with proceeds totaling \$1,308.15, less \$124.00 for change; 2) A \$50.00 Christmas gift was sent to 12 college students; and 3) Our CD account totals \$3,118.69 with interest accrued of \$7.14.

**Worship:** Ann Osborn - Upcoming events include: 1) The children's Christmas Pageant during service on December 16; 2) The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service and Communion on December 24; 3) Hymn Sing Sunday on December 30; and 4) Taking down of Sanctuary Advent decorations on January 3. Pastor Dinah will be on vacation from December 30 after church service until January 8 and Rosemary Abbett will be on vacation from December 26 to January 5. Pastor Dinah is also in the midst of revamping the Praise Book and looking for any suggestions for songs/hymns.

**Historian:** Al Bryant - Al will return as our church historian.

**Pastor's Report:** Dinah Haag - Report submitted

**Unfinished Business:** There will be an offering taken during the Christmas Eve Service with monies given to be used for the ongoing mission of the church.

**New Business:** None

**No Reports:** Memorials, Investment, Constitution & By-Laws, Personnel, Religious Education, Historian, New Business.

Myra Elias, Council Chair, called for the meeting adjournment at 4:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Osborn,  
Church Council Clerk





## We Received Mail

Dear Members,  
I know that this letter is quite overdue, but I would just like to thank you so much for giving me the chance to go to Little Eden Camp this summer. It was such an amazing experience! I learned so much, met so many great people and I really grew my relationship with the Lord. I really appreciate you giving me this opportunity. Sincerely,

Presley Bartley

Dear Rev. Dinah Haag,  
To my dear friends and former member friends of First Congregational – with loving Christian wishes and cherished memories of growing up and attending a caring, friendly congregation, to the Chester & Jennie & Oatley’s fine children’s family. As members for fifty years in Frankfort, the Church was our “foundation”. The Christian teachings provided our families – children and grandchildren – a thankful and blessed legacy. Peace be with you.

Dixie (Oatley) Buehrer



## Thank You

to all who contributed to the **Benzie Senior Resources “Meals on Wheels.”** The gifts have been picked up and are being packaged for delivery. Thank you for making a difference.



## Thank you

to all who helped with the Silver Tea. Over 105 years and it is still a thing of beauty and blessing to and from the good people of this church. This traditional event brought friends & families together from many of the surrounding areas to start off the Christmas season.

## January is our Financial Worker's Appreciation Month

### Thank You!!!

From the Financial Secretaries to the Investment people, to the Treasurers, these are the people who work behind the scenes to keep our finances and accounts in order. Not everyone has the ability to serve us in such ways, so thank you – all of you- for your gifts.

*We wish you a*  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

*Tomorrow,*  
is the first blank page  
of a 365 page book. Write a good one  
- Brad Paisley



- Marti Mollema and her brother, Tom Hallquist, for planting the huge number of bulbs that will grace the front yard of the church come spring. What a loving gift of time, energy and beauty!
- Those who helped with the Christmas pageant. Just as you remember scenes from your childhood, so will there be a memory or two from that day that will live long into the future. Your loving care won't end for a long, long time.
- To everyone who brought Christmas cheer to the nursing care facilities and to the Hirschfelds for hosting the party afterward. What a lovely evening; all about what is good.
- Those who ordered poinsettias to adorn our Christmas worship. You don't have to, but you do, and your contributions truly transform the sanctuary into a special place of holiness.
- To those who helped with the Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship service. It's timelessness and tradition is only part of the delight of the evening. The individuals that say "yes" to the various aspects of the evening make it personal and even more meaningful.

*Our Deepest Condolences  
to the Families of*

Gordon Banks  
Denise Brown  
Doug Ehle

We grieve with you in your losses and look forward with you to that day when we will join your loved one in eternity. God bless you richly on this part of your journey.

# Please Remember in Prayer

Dawn Bonderenko  
Nena Bonderenko  
Sue Chandler  
June Coolman  
Denis Crosby  
Fred Fridlington  
Laurie Gorden  
Judy Grant  
Peggy Harban  
Jack Harnish  
Pat Hessler  
Maurie Hirschfeld  
Veronica Jamros  
Amy Jones  
Marce Keillor  
Serenity Schulz  
Shelley Scripps  
Ginny St. Onge  
Mark Steigerwald  
Donna Steward  
Bea Stone  
Edna Teatro  
Mike Viilo  
Les Webb  
Bob King  
Robert Knop  
Jim Lalas  
Sally Lavender  
Leslie McElduff  
Carol Maciejewski  
Lois Martindale  
Michelle Master  
Andy Mollema  
Lisa Parriott

Elaine Peterson  
Ron Phillips  
Vern Reed  
Jason Schulz  
Josh Schulz  
Jason Schultz  
Shelley Scripps  
Donna Steward  
Edna Teatro  
Tom Thomas  
Norma Weeringa

**The Families of:**

Gordon Banks (November)  
Denise Brown  
Peter Burt  
Doug Ehle  
Roger Gilroy  
Terry Robertson  
Zachary Roesel

**Those In the Military:**

Matthew Conrad  
Cheyenne Dubois  
Mike Kinney  
Mike Porter  
Clark Robinson  
Ryan Ruddy

**Those in Senior Living:**

Jan Condon  
Danielle Gardner  
Pat Hessler  
Moore Peregrine  
Susie Vigland





- Congratulations to Dick & Joanne Brown on their 70th Wedding Anniversary. What a blessing!
- Congrats also to Doug Rath on his promotion as a Vice President at Graceland Fruit Inc.!!!



# First Congregational Church of Frankfort

## January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1  Jessie Grant Pat Hessler Amy & Mark Steigerwald	2 9:30 a.m. MOBBI Class  Dick & Joanne Brown	3 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group  1:00 p.m. Dedecorating 2:00 & 3:00 p.m. MOBBI Class	4  <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">MasonGokey</div>	5
	Pastor Dinah Time Off – Jan. 8					
6 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  10:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School  <div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Brown's 70th Anniversary Celebration</div>	7 6:00 p.m. MOBBI Class	8 9:30 a.m., 1:00 & 2:00 p.m. MOBBI Classes  6:00 p.m. Shift Happens Class  <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Abrianna Nostrandt Murphy Yang</div>	9 9:30 a.m. MOBBI Class  11:30 a.m. Min. Assoc. Mtg.  4:00 p.m. Council Mtg.  7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	10 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group  2:00 & 3:00 p.m. MOBBI   Naomi Kolehmainen	11	12  <div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">6:00 p.m. The Gathering at the Parsonage</div>
Pastor Dinah Time Off – Jan. 8						
13 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School	14 6:00 p.m. MOBBI Class   Melissa Koenig	15 9:30 a.m., 1:00 & 2:00 p.m. MOBBI Classes  2:00 p.m. Coffee's on Dinah  6:00 p.m. Shift Happens Class	16 9:30 a.m. MOBBI Class  <div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:00 p.m. Al's Academy</div> 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	17 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group  2:00 & 3:00 p.m. MOBBI  Cheryl Acklin  <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Charlie Ottinger Amy Steigerwald</div>	18   Brian Nostrandt Evelyn Osborn	19 Calvin College Snowsports Overnight   Chris Porter
20 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School  2:00 p.m. & 2:45 Nursing Care Facility Worship	21 6:00 p.m. MOBBI Class  Levi Hubbard John King Jacob MacKenzie Joshua MacKenzie Sterling Porter  <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Bill Bruinsma Jan Condon Betty Milliron</div>	22 9:30 a.m., 1:00 & 2:00 p.m. MOBBI Classes  2:00 p.m. Coffee's on Dinah  6:00 p.m. Shift Happens Class	23 9:30 a.m. MOBBI Class  9:30 a.m. Human Serv. Coll.  7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	24 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group  2:00 & 3:00 p.m. MOBBI Classes   Ron Phillips Kay VanOrder	25   Kimberly Gilbert	26   First Congregational Church of Frankfort Andrea Frost Pat Katz Julie Robinson
27 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School  <div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Annual Meeting and Potluck</div>	28 6:00 p.m. MOBBI   Hugh Hessler	29 9:30 a.m., 1:00 & 2:00 p.m. MOBBI Classes  2:00 p.m. Coffee's on Dinah  6:00 p.m. Shift Happens	30 9:30 a.m. MOBBI Class  7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal   7	31 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group  2:00 & 3:00 p.m. MOBBI Classes   Cory & Jessica Baklarz		

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First Congregational Church  
 431 Forest Avenue  
 Frankfort, MI 49635



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Anniversaries	1, 7			
Announcements	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	6	Andrea Frost, Sue King Bob King, Larry Neuhardt	Rob Burch
Birthdays	1, 7			
Calendar	7	13	Marti Mollema, Ann & Paul Osborn, Jill Smeltzer	Naomi Kolehmainen
Greeters	8			
Prayer List	6	20	Alma House, Chris Porter, David & Linda Schweyer	Will Church
Congratulations & Thank You's	6			
Ushers	8	27	Mary Ann Harness, Betty & Fred Milliron, Betty Webb	Robin MacKenzie