

# Steepleviews

First Congregational Church of Frankfort  
431 Forest Ave.  
Frankfort, MI 49635 (231) 352-7909

Website: [www.fcfrankfort.org](http://www.fcfrankfort.org)  
Rev. Dinah Haag: [pastor431@gmail.com](mailto:pastor431@gmail.com)  
Church Office: [secretary431@gmail.com](mailto:secretary431@gmail.com)

## January 2017 Anniversaries & Birthdays

- 01 Jessie Grant  
Pat Hessler  
Amy & Mark Steigerwald
- 02 Dick & Joanne Brown
- 03 Mason Gokey
- 09 Murphy Yang
- 10 Naomi Kolehmeinen  
Kayla Nye
- 14 Melissa Koenig
- 15 Carsen Nostrandt
- 16 Amy Steigerwald  
Charlie Ottinger
- 18 Brian Nostrandt  
Evelyn Osborn
- 19 Chris Porter
- 20 Jay Peregrine
- 21 Levi Hubbard  
John King  
Sterling Porter
- 22 Bill Bruinsma  
Jan Condon  
Betty Milliron
- 23 Alberto Sanchez  
Nancy Swensson
- 24 Ron Phillips  
Suzanne Reising  
Kay VanOrder
- 25 Kimberly Gilbert
- 26 Andrea Frost  
Pat Katz  
Julie Robinson  
Our Church Family
- 28 Hugh Hessler
- 30 Cory & Jessica Baklarz



- January 01 **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**
- January 15 **Classic Comedy Series Cinema  
"Duck Soup"**
- January 20 **BYOL for Mexican Train**
- January 22 **Annual Meeting & Potluck**
- January 25 **Al's Academy:  
The History of First  
Congregational Church of  
Frankfort, MI**

## Our Annual Meeting & Potluck Lunch

will follow the Worship Service  
Sunday, January 22, 2017.

Copies of the  
Annual Report  
will be  
available  
January 8 at the  
sanctuary  
doors. Proxy  
ballots are  
available at the  
end of the  
Report.



# A Multitude of Gratitude



Thank you

## With heartfelt thanks to:

- Bill Frostic for "finishing" the choir folder storage with the name tags frames. It adds such a touch of nostalgia and character!
- Mary Reed for making 22-24 dozen cookies for the Silver Tea sale Uffda!
- All who helped with the Silver Tea. It was lovely as always, made uniquely beautiful with each of your gracious contributions.
- Jim MacKenzie for fixing the leak in the upstairs church restroom.
- Jim MacKenzie for snowplowing.
- Those who have taken up the shovel and tossed a few flakes.
- To all who made the Advent & Christmas season so beautiful and meaningful.
- The readers and musicians and ushers and greeters and all who made the Candlelight Christmas Eve service so special once again. It really is one of the best services of the year!
- To all who came out to sing for those who live in the nursing care facilities. The residents visibly enjoyed the time and effort you gave up for them. And thank you to Andrea Frost for hosting the after-caroling party. It was a really good evening.
- Those of you who have given so generously of your treasures in year-end giving. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



Thank you to all who blessed me with your gifts this season. Whether it was your presence, your presents or your treasures, you are all priceless lights of love, for whom I am so grateful. Others may say it, but I really mean it; I have the best church family ever! Thank you for all you do, Pastor Dinah



- Cecelia Schmitt on being named as one of the 98 Academic All-State Athletes.
- Mary Reed on the birth of her new great-grandson! Andrew David was born on Dec. 24, weighing in at 10.7 oz. and 22 inches long!
- Laurits Petersen, foreign exchange student staying with Matt & Becky Addis, for finishing honorable mention all-district for soccer.
- A big thank you to outgoing Frankfort district board members Rick Schmitt and Doug Rath for their years of service on the school board.

## First Congregational Church's Sesquicentennial Report

10th Publication

The following anecdote was found in the Benzie County Patriot, January 2, 1958:

Our church building was not erected without some difficulty, for in 1871, when the building had been pretty much framed and the steeple up, a wind came up and blew the building flat with the steeple lying across the street, pretty well intact in the lot where the Trowbridge house now stands.

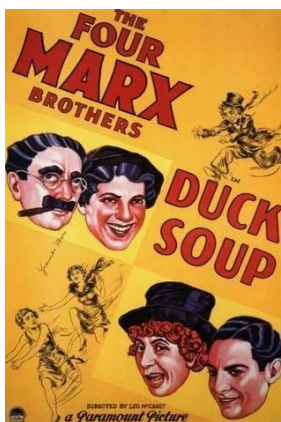
### Two Events Come Together on Sunday, January 15:

#### Our 150th Fine Arts Series

will feature the first of our winter

#### Classic Comedy Series

Join us for a bite to eat following the Worship Service and stay for the laughs. This movie has been deemed



“culturally, historically and aesthetically significant by the US Library of Congress,” so it’s one everyone should see! It’s free and you’ll be home long before dark!

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*Brown Bag  
Lunch*

## BYOL

(Bring Your Own Lunch)

And we'll play Mexican Train

Friday, January 20, 2017

at 12:00 p.m.

All are welcome to join us  
in beating the winter blues.

Come and enjoy some fun.

Bring your own brown bag lunch and  
we'll supply the  
cold drink, tea & coffee.

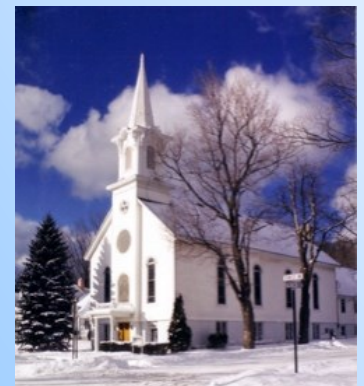
## Al's Academy Returns!

### “The History of First Congregational Church of Frankfort, MI”

Join us for an enlightening  
presentation on the  
history of First Congregational  
Church of Frankfort on  
January 25th at 6:00 pm.

Dinner will  
precede the  
presentation at  
5:30 pm.

As with all  
Academies,  
there is no charge  
for this event.



# Council Notes

There were 10 Council members at the December 14, 2016 Council meeting.

**Treasurer's Report: John McElduff**

Offerings for November: \$7,488.00  
Expenses for November: \$8,173.09  
Carry Over for October: - \$685.09  
Following review, the Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

**Committee Reports**

**Memorials: John McElduff**

The balance in this account is \$7,413.88.

**Investment: Andrea Frost for Denis Crosby**

The Committee approved a withdrawal of 5% for 2017; The Council approved the proposal. The withdrawal amount will be based on the balance as of 12/31/16.

**Missions Committee: Myra Elias**

The balance in this fund is \$663.71.

**Nominating: Larry Neuhardt**

There was discussion and review of the 2017 Council members slate. After a the discussion, a motion was then made to accept this slate. Motion Carried.

**Sesquicentennial Committee: Andy Mollema**

- 1) The original deed has been found dated in 1882, and the land was donated by the Frankfort Land Co., with a charge of \$1,000 once the church building is built.
- 2) The Committee voted to increase the size of the requested plaque to 24x36 which will be two-sided with information on both sides about our Church and its' building. The increase amount was approved by the Council.
- 3) The Committee is still seeking information on the original history of the Church; Andy will be checking into this.

**Personnel: Andy Mollema**

See #3 under Unfinished Business.

**Property: Andrea Frost**

- 1) The Committee has been discussing installation of air conditioning and heating units for the offices and the Church Sanctuary with more research needed.
- 2) Jim MacKenzie will be keeping a check on all property issues for Andrea while she is away.

**Women's Fellowship: Ann Osborn for Mary Reed**

The Silver Tea was a great success and many new people attended for the first time.

**Worship Committee: Ann Osborn**

No meeting, but de-decorating for the Sanctuary will be on January 3rd at 1:00 p.m., and there will be an Epiphany service on January 8th.

**Pastor's Report: Dinah Haag**

Report submitted with the Council approving Christmas bonuses for our staff.

**Unfinished Business:**

- 1) Tee Shirts – still in progress.
- 2) Area rugs for the Parlor – still in progress.
- 3) Personnel wage proposals were discussed and final figures were compiled for the 2017 Budget.

No reports: **Finance & Stewardship, Constitution & By-Laws, Outreach, Personnel, Property, Religious Education, & Historian.**

With no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Osborn, Church Council Clerk

January is our  
**Financial Worker's  
Appreciation Month**

**We Are Thankful**

for our 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.

**Monthly Grief Group**

Happy New Year??  
For those dealing with a loss,  
the thought of facing a new year  
without your loved one  
is painful. What can you do?  
Please join us for our meeting  
on Sunday, January 8, at 3:00 PM  
at Trinity Lutheran Church,  
955 James St., Frankfort.

We can talk about  
**“Realistic Resolutions  
for Grieving People.”**

If you need more information  
about the group, have questions,  
or need directions, call us at 399-0141.  
We hope to see you - it's nice to be  
with others who understand.  
(Carol and Doug Luther, Group Leaders)



**Motivational Thoughts**

“The hearts of billions of people are beating everyday; even billions more animals, insects and sea creatures are moving and living and have beating hearts also. The Sun is in perfect distance from the Earth so that we do not freeze or burn and allows water to rise and fall to give life to the land. The Sea has the perfect amounts of salt to sustain the life there. This is just what is happening here on Earth! There are trillions of other solar systems and galaxies with more things happening! It is interesting to me that some say they will believe in the creator, if only they could see one miracle when billions of miracles are occurring at every moment! All of these things are supposed to occur simultaneously by chance?”

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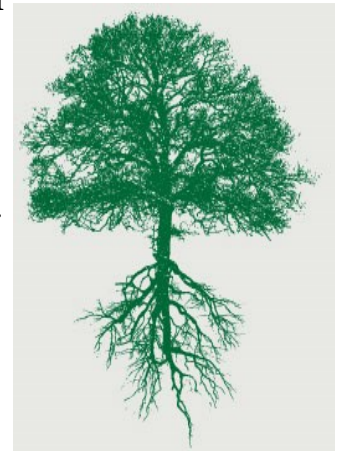


**Church Membership**

*Establishing Roots in  
a faith community!*

**Would you like ours to be your  
official church family?**

If you are interested  
in becoming a  
member in this  
wonderful Church  
Family, please let  
Pastor Dinah know.  
Or if you'd like to  
know more about  
this Church family,  
just let her know  
that too.





### Holiday Traditions

Provide enjoyment, a sense of comradery, and a source of comfort to many people. Our Annual Silver Tea was an overall success thanks to many of our church family members who devoted many hours of preparation and labor. Homemade cookies, hors d'oeuvres, and of course tea and coffee were also served by our volunteers and were enjoyed by all. This traditional event brought friends & families together from many of the surrounding areas to start off the Christmas season. There are not enough words to, once again, thank everyone who came together and made this such a memorable and lovely "Silver Tea".

Thanks  
for Your  
Kindness



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.

## Please Remember in Prayer

### Prayer Concerns:

Ed Baldwin  
Peyton Clevenger  
friend  
Sophie Cobb  
Bill Frostic  
Karen Hartman  
Bill Hirschfeld  
Julie Hirschfeld  
Travis Holland  
Theresa Johnson  
Jarred Kelly  
Sue Koekel  
Lori Lalas  
Erica Locicero  
Nathan MacKenzie  
Harriett Mick  
Cindy Olmstead  
Paul Patterson  
Josie Rath

### The Families of:

Heather Barley  
Destiny Baynton  
Mike Brown  
Bud Carpenter  
Suzanne Gum  
Jackie Johnson  
Dan Link  
Ed Robinson

### Continued

#### Prayers:

John Abbett  
Roy Acklin  
Gordon Banks  
Dick Brown  
Joanne Brown  
Kerry Buzzell  
Lynn Buzzell  
Bob Conrad  
Kathy Crosby  
Annaleesia Frieholtz  
Melissa Grant  
Carolyn Hershey  
Nancy Knop  
Jim Lalas  
Lori Lalas  
Carolyn Levis  
Alyssa Lone  
Lois Martindale  
Steven McHugh  
Ron Phillips  
Helen Postema  
Marilyn Reed  
Vern Reed  
Don Rummelhart  
Josh Schulz  
Ward Van Houten  
Kay VanOrder  
Andy Wagner  
Doc Wagner  
Chia Yang  
Jeremiah Young



Sign up sheets are in the Dining Room for anyone interested in hosting our weekly Coffee Fellowship. Sign up with a friend or other people. We enjoy any treats, and simple is definitely the best! Coffee and cold drinks will be provided along with paper products.

# First Congregational Church of Frankfort

## January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 10:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School &amp; Communion Sunday</p> <p>Jessie Grant Pat Hessler Amy &amp; Mark Steigerwald</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>Dick &amp; Joanne Brown</p>	<p>3 1:00 p.m. Sanctuary De-Decorating</p> <p>Mason Gokey</p>	<p>4 10:00 a.m. BalA VisX Group Class</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Worship Meeting</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5 9:30 a.m. Yoga</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Ministerial Assoc. Meeting</p> <p>4:30 p.m. Sesquicentennial Mtg.</p> <p>5:15 p.m. Outreach Mtg.</p>	<p>6</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Happy Epiphany Day</b></p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 10:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School &amp; Communion Sunday</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Murphy Yang</p>	<p>10 4:00 p.m. Property Meeting</p> <p>Naomi Kolehmainen Kayla Nye</p>	<p>11 10:30 a.m. BalA VisX Group Class</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Council Meeting</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12 9:30 a.m. Yoga</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Melissa Koenig</p>
<p>15 10:30 a.m. Worship &amp; Sunday School</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;"> <p>11:45 a.m. Lunch &amp; Classic Comedy Cinema: Duck Soup</p> </div> <p>Carsen Nostrandt</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Amy Steigerwald Charlie Ottinger</p>	<p>17 7:30 p.m. Choir</p>	<p>18 9:30 a.m. Human Services Meeting</p> <p>10:30 a.m. BalA VisX Group Class</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Council Meeting</p> <p>Brian Nostrandt Evelyn Osborn</p>	<p>19 9:30 a.m. Yoga</p> <p>Chris Porter</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;"> <p>12:00 p.m. BYOL for Mexican Train</p> </div> <p>Jay Peregrine</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Levi Hubbard John King Sterling Porter</p>
<p>22 10:30 a.m. Worship &amp; Sunday School</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;"> <p>11:45 a.m. Annual Meeting &amp; Potluck</p> </div> <p>Bill Bruinsma Jan Condon Betty Milliron</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Alberto Sanchez Nancy Swensson</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Ron Phillips Suzanne Reising Kay VanOrder</p>	<p>25 9:30 a.m. Human Services Coll. Mtg.</p> <p>10:00 a.m. BalA VisX Group Class</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;"> <p>5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:00 p.m. AI's Academy</p> </div> <p>7:30 p.m. Choir</p>	<p>26 9:30 a.m. Yoga</p> <p><b>Our Church Family's 150th Anniversary</b></p> <p>Andrea Frost Pat Katz Julie Robinson</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Hugh Hessler</p>
<p>29 10:30 a.m. Worship &amp; Sunday School</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Cory &amp; Jessica Baklarz</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7</p>			

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 431 Forest Avenue  
 Frankfort, MI 49635



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Date	Sunday School Teachers	Greeters/Ushers <i>Head Usher:</i> <i>Chris Porter</i>	
<b>1</b>	Will Church	Kathy Walthorn, Denis Crosby Ann & Paul Osborn	Greeter and Ushers: Please arrive at church by <u>10 a.m.</u> ready to greet and welcome all who come to worship. Thank you for your extra efforts toward welcoming them.
<b>8</b>	Naomi Kolehmainen	Marti Mollema, Lori Dougherty Leslie McElduff, Larry Neuhardt	
<b>15</b>	Jim MacKenzie	Betty & Fred Milliron Mary Ann Harness, Pat Kinske	
<b>22</b>	Robin MacKenzie	Pat Kinske, Sue King Bill Hirschfeld, Chris Porter	
<b>29</b>	Becky Addis	Jim & Robin MacKenzie Jill Smeltzer, Mary Reed	