

Steepleviews

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

Website: www.fccfrankfort.org
Rev. Dinah Haag: pastor431@gmail.com
Church Office: secretary431@gmail.com

January 2023

Anniversaries & Birthdays

- 01 Jessie Grant
Amy & Mark Steigerwald
- 02 Ian Addis
- 03 Mason Gokey
Colton Henry
- 08 Christy Driggett
Sherry Gigous
- 09 Abrianna Nostrandt
- 10 Naomi Kolehmainen
- 14 Melissa Koenig
- 15 Carson Nostrandt
- 16 Charlie Ottinger
Amy Steigerwald
- 17 Cheryl Acklin
- 18 Brian Nostrandt
Evelyn Osborn
- 19 Chris Porter
- 21 Levi Hubbard
John King
Jacob MacKenzie
Joshua MacKenzie
Sterling Porter
- 22 Bill Bruinsma
Betty Milliron
- 24 Ron Phillips
- 25 Kimberly Gilbert
- 26 Julie Robinson
- 28 Hugh Hessler
- 31 Cory & Jessica Baklarz

Upcoming Events

POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH
BLOOD DONOR MONTH
WALK YOUR DOG MONTH
MENTAL WELLNESS MONTH

- Jan. 1 New Year's Day
- Jan. 6 Epiphany
- Jan. 11 Coffee's on Dinah begin
- Jan. 14 Yahtzee & Euchre
- Jan. 15 Maples Worship
- Jan. 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan. 19 Al's Academy
- Jan. 22 All Church Annual Meeting
All Church Potluck

Our Annual Meeting & Potluck Lunch

will follow the Worship Service on Sunday, January 22, 2023. Copies of the Annual Report will be available January 8th at the sanctuary doors. Proxy ballots are available at the end of the Report. The agenda will include the annual review, election of officers and the 2023 budget. All input is welcome and official members are able to vote.

Pastor's Page

"Prayer for a New Year"

Lord, you know better than I know myself
that I am growing older and one day will be old.

Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must
say something on every subject
and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to
straighten out everybody's affairs.
Make me thoughtful but not moody;
helpful but not bossy.

With my vast store of wisdom
it seems a pity not to use it all;
but you know, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details,
give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips on my aches and pains,
they are increasing and love of rehearsing them
is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

I dare not ask for grace enough
to enjoy the tales of others pains,
but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory,
but for growing humility and a lessening coxsureness
when my memory seems to clash with the memories of
others.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally
I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet;
I do not want to be a saint,
some of them are so hard to live with,
but a sour old person is one of the
crowning works of the devil.

Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected
places and talent in unexpected people,
and give me O Lord the grace to tell them so. AMEN.

Anonymous – 17th century
Found in an old English Church

<https://www.thomasmorecenter.org/resources/prayers/old-nuns-prayer/>



From the Technology Department

Technology is a wonderful thing to help people stay
connected with one another. It can, however, be a source
of frustration when trying to join your favorite church
service online. To minimize frustration when “the
internet” is not cooperating here are a couple of things to
remember...

- The Sunday service is recorded and is available on the church's Facebook page after the live service to watch when you have a better connection. It can be a day or two before it gets to the webpage at www.fccfrankfort.org.
- On occasion, the internet broadcast will just “freeze” or start “buffering” or sometimes just displays that annoying circle “⊙” going round and round while you wait patiently for the broadcast to continue. If that happens to you, try refreshing your connection by:
 - Pausing the broadcast for a moment and then unpausing it
 - Selecting the refresh symbol “⊙” in the address bar **OR** pressing the control “ctrl” key and the letter “R” at the same time
 - Closing the broadcast & Facebook and then reopening both again.
- Also, just understanding what could be causing it can be helpful, some possible causes are listed below:
 - ◆ The Church loses internet service on occasion (usually in the summer) due to the load on the network from all the visitors in the area.
 - ◆ You may lose service on your end for the same reason or that you are just in a remote area or weather interrupts service, etc.

Whatever the cause, patience is the best method to overcome or avoid frustration.

As always, know we are with you, and we appreciate you being with us!



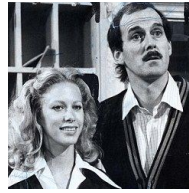
Yahtzee & Euchre: Shaking Our Fists at January

Saturday, January 14th at 1:00, bring a neighbor, friend or family member, and we will engage brains and entertain some for an hour or so. No knowledge needed for either game; they are quick and easy to learn. You don't even have to dress up!



Al's Academy is Back!

Thursday, January 19, the free dinner will be at 5:30 p.m. followed by the program at 6:00 p.m.



All are welcome!



The Ladies of Laughs (LOL):
What You Don't Know About
the Women of Comedy Teams



There is a **worldwide recall** of "Kidde" fire extinguishers with plastic handles. To see if your extinguisher qualifies for a free replacement, you may call Dave at Bay Area Fire Extinguisher and Safety at 231-499-2503. (Thanks to Bob and Sue King for exploring this topic and sharing the information with us!)



Come on in to Petals & Perks or get the zoom link from Pastor Dinah for 2:00 on Tuesdays **"Coffee's On Dinah"**. She'll buy whatever you'd like to



wet your whistle and we can catch up with folks near and far at the same time! And of course, it's free!

Church Council Minutes

November 9, 2022

FCCF COUNCIL MINUTES DECEMBER 14, 2022

Meeting was called to order by Council Chair, Linda Schweyer at 4:02 p.m. followed by the Opening Prayer.

Treasurer's Report: Rob Burch, for November

Offerings: \$8,245.00
 Budgeted expenses: 9,084.20
 YTD Carryover: -19,078.54

A letter was drafted and sent to the membership explaining the Church's financial situation as noted on the negative YTD Carryover.

Committee Reports

Memorials: Judy Welch - \$50.00 was donated in the memory of Marvelee Kneisel.

Finance: Judy Welch – see Treasurer's Report

Investment: Chris Porter, as of November 30

Restricted Accounts Total: \$624,343.29
 Unrestricted Accounts: 56,373.33
 Total: 680,716.62

Property: Kris Richards – 1) Pastor Dinah and Leo Hughes met with Sound Environments about live streaming and things that affect connectivity. 2) A Bluetooth extender was added to the sound system so that people can connect to our system and play music for funerals and weddings. 3) The Fifth St. door latch/lock is repaired and the front door has been lubed with a thank you to locksmith Ken Knapp and his wife Kathy (no charge). 4) Snow removal will be done this winter by the Nostrandts. 5) The Church and Parsonage sidewalks were edged. 6) A big thank you to Dennis Richards and Tom Hafer for their many jobs and repairs.

Worship: Ann Osborn – 1) Upcoming events include: Communion and Christmas Eve Service beginning at 6:45 pm and 7:00 pm respectively on December 24, Christmas Day Worship Service at 10:30 on December 25, New Years Day Service at

10:30 on January 1, 2023; 2) The Maples Worship Services are going well and the folks are so grateful; 3) The number and condition of the Christmas Eve Service candles were checked; and 5) after the first of the year, an usher/greeter meeting will be scheduled for a refresher on what is expected before, during and after worship services.

No Reports: Constitution & By-Laws, Missions, Nominating, Outreach, Personnel, Religious Ed., Women's Fellowship

Old Business: None

New Business: Christmas Bonuses discussion: As our giving is down and due to finances at this time, the motion was made by Bill Hirshfeld that Council approve the decision that no Christmas bonuses be given out this year; Kris Richards seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed. Ann Osborn will draft a letter to our employees which include the bookkeeper, organist and secretary.

Linda Schweyer, Council Chair, called for the meeting's adjournment at 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 Ann Osborn, Church Council Clerk

How Is the Budget?

A snapshot of the most current two months.

	October	November	Year-to-Date
Offering Income	\$5,598	\$8,245.00	\$91,116
Budgeted Expenses	\$9,618	9,084.20	\$110,873

Offering Income vs. Budgeted Expenses

Thank You!

- To all who helped with the cookie sale! It may have run its course, but as we are making those decisions for next year please know how much we appreciate all who helped give it a shot in 2022! \$624 was collected.
- To all those who stepped in to cover the bases while Pastor Dinah was sick. We've all had a lot of coverage in 2022!
- Dawn Schulz, for replacing the hymnal markers. Those being replaced have been in the hymnals for well over 23 years!
- Dawn and Serenity Schulz for arranging poinsettias and so many of the other Christmas season tasks around the church. All the efforts and help is so appreciated
- All who served as ushers and greeters, read scriptures and stories and all the other pieces of the Christmas weekend. It was busy and the weather was so unpredictable, but the services went really well, thanks to all of you!
- All who have answered the call to help out in the financial department. You all are amazing and deeply appreciated!

Thank you all



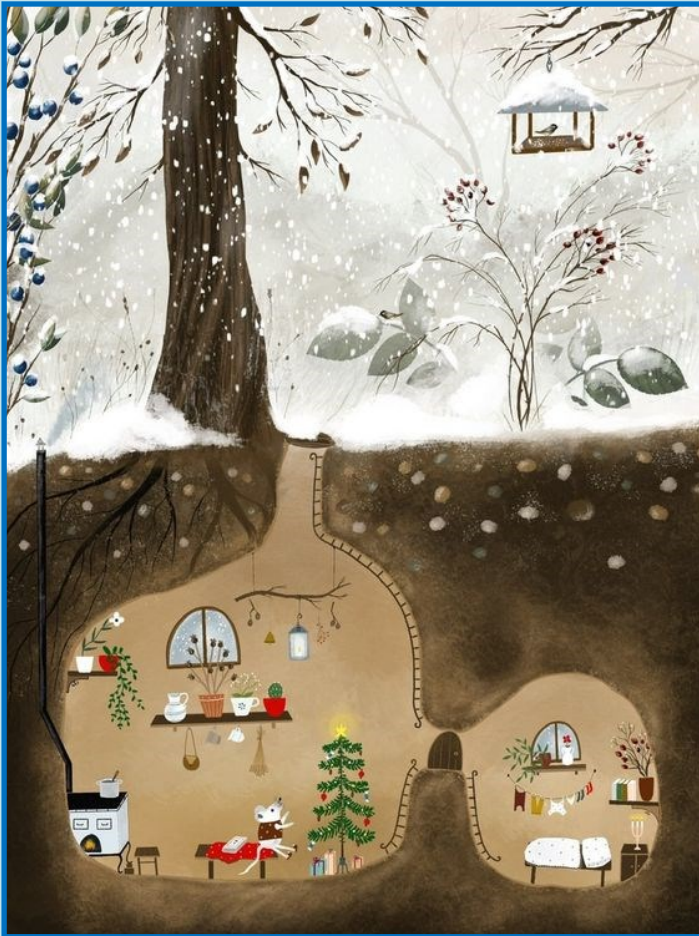
for the generous Christmas gift—on top of your additional gifts to the church coffers. I am so blessed to have landed in such an amazing church family!

Did you know that if holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) finds its leaves are being nibbled by deer, it switches genes to make them spiky when they regrow? So on taller holly trees, the upper leaves (which are out of reach) have smooth edges, while the lower leaves are prickly.



Ancient Babylonians were thought to be the first to make resolutions for the new year some 4,000 years ago, mostly in the form of promises to pagan gods. Today's resolutions are mostly secular in nature, and focus on self-improvement. Although some 48% of Americans make New Year's resolutions, only about 8% are considered successful in keeping them.

Your Prayers Are Appreciated for



January is
National Mental
Health Month.

Local Mental Health
Hotline: 877

National
Hotline: 988.



Real people are ready for your call.

*Did you know that in January
our church celebrates
Church Financial Worker's Appreciation?
Thank you for keeping us informed!*



Sherie Boswell
Russ Brandt
Steve Chapman
Marnie Curtis
Pat Delonnay
Joe Fitzsimmons
Luca Forrest
Amanda Forrester
Missi Gilbert
Melissa Grant
Marshel Holmgren
Jason Kolehmainen
Michaela McGirr
Lake MacKenzie
Jean Neuhardt
Ron Phillips
Robin Rommel
Jordan Williams
Chris Young
Peter Young
John Young

The Families of

Dick Jenkins
Dave Petrick
Vern Reed

Military:

Jacob Bingham
Tyler Kinney
Ryan Ruddy

Senior Living:

At Home

Joanne Brown
Diane Brutzer
Norma Elias
Ward Van Houton

Cadillac

Don Bonderenko

Maple Valley

Steve Elrick

The Homesteader

Mary & Roy Pearce
Bea Stone
John Young

The Maples

Wayne Knight
Diana Monovich
Dave Siuda
Dori Turner

The Pines

Nora Bungard

If you are shopping with Amazon, you can take advantage of their nonprofit supports. Our official name, for registration purposes, is First Congregational Church of Frankfort.



Thank
you!

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 <u>New Year's Day</u> 10:30 a.m. Worship</p> <p>Jessie Grant Amy & Mark Steigerwald</p>	<p>2 5:30 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>Ian Addis</p>	<p>3 8:30 a.m. MOBBI 4:00 p.m. Outreach Meeting</p> <p>Mason Gokey Colton Henry</p>	<p>4 9:00 a.m. MOBBI 10:30 a.m. Worship Meeting</p>	<p>5 8:00 a.m. MOBBI 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group 4:00 p.m. Property Meeting</p>	<p>6 <u>Epiphany</u></p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a. m. Worship</p> <p>Christy Driggett Sherry Gigous</p>	<p>9 5:30 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>Abrianna Nostrandt</p>	<p>10 8:30 a.m. MOBBI 2:00 p.m. Coffee's on Dinah, Petals & Perks & Zoom</p> <p>Naomi Kolehmainen</p>	<p>11 9:00 a.m. MOBBI 11:30 a.m. Ministerial Association Meeting 4:00 p.m. Council Meeting</p>	<p>12 9:00 a.m. MOBBI 9:30 a. m. Yoga Group</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 1:00 p.m. Euchre & Yahtzee</p> <p>Melissa Koenig</p>
<p>15 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship 2:00 p.m. Maples Worship</p> <p>Carson Nostrandt</p>	<p>16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day 5:30 p.m. MOBBI</p> <p>Charlie Ottinger Amy Steigerwald</p>	<p>17 8:30 a.m. MOBBI 2:00 p.m. Coffee's on Dinah, Petals & Perks & Zoom</p> <p>Cheryl Acklin</p>	<p>18 9:00 a.m. MOBBI 4:30 p.m. Benzie Senior Resources Board Meeting</p> <p>Brian Nostrandt Evelyn Osborn</p>	<p>19 8:00 a.m. MOBBI 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group 2:00 p.m. Pastors Benzie Faith in Action</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:00 AI's Academy Ladies of Laughs</p> <p>Chris Porter</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Levi Hubbard John King Jacob MacKenzie Joshua MacKenzie Sterling Porter</p>
<p>22 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship</p> <p>11:30 a.m. Annual Meeting & Potluck</p> <p>Bill Bruinsma Betty Milliron</p>	<p>23 5:30 p.m. MOBBI</p>	<p>24 8:30 a.m. MOBBI 2:00 p.m. Coffee's on Dinah, Petals & Perks & Zoom</p> <p>Ron Phillips</p>	<p>25 9:00 a.m. MOBBI 9:00 a.m. Human Services Collaborative</p> <p>Kimberly Gilbert</p>	<p>26 8:00 a.m. MOBBI 9:30 a. m.</p> <p>Julie Robinson First Congregational Church of Frankfort, MI</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Hugh Hessler</p>
<p>29 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship</p> <p>Council Commissioning</p>	<p>30 5:30 p.m. MOBBI</p>	<p>31 8:30 a.m. MOBBI 2:00 p.m. Coffee's on Dinah, Petals & Perks & Zoom</p> <p>Cory & Jessica Baklarz</p>				

Steepleviews

First Congregational Church of Frankfort
431 Forest Avenue. Frankfort, MI 49635

<i>Table of Contents</i>	
Anniversaries	1, 7
Announcements	1, 3
Birthdays	1, 7
Calendar	7
Greeters & Ushers	8
Pastor's Page	2
Prayer List	6
Thank You's	5

	January Greeters/Ushers <i>Head Usher: Donna Phillips</i>	Sunday School
1	Jim Buzzell, Myra Elias, Donna Phillips, Rob Jones	Jim MacKenzie
8	Dawn & Serenity Schulz, David & Linda Schweyer	Linda Schweyer
15	Phil Gates, Jennifer Osborn, Katherine & Randy Johnson	Naomi Kolehmainen
22	Tom Hafer, Bill Hirschfeld, Molly & Scott Harrison	Serenity Schulz
29	Marti Mollema, Ann Osborn, Chris Porter, Mary Reed	Julie Hirschfeld