

# Steepleviews

First Congregational Church of Frankfort  
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Church Office: [secretary431@gmail.com](mailto:secretary431@gmail.com)

## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 1  | Jessie Grant<br>Pat Hessler<br>Amy & Mark Steigerwald                       |
| 3  | Mason Gokey<br>Colton Henry   |
| 8  | Christy Driggett<br>Sherry Gigous   |
| 9  | Abrianna Nostrandt  |
| 10 | Naomi Kolehmainen   |
| 14 | Melissa Koenig  |
| 15 | Carsen Nostrandt  |
| 16 | Charlie Ottinger<br>Amy Steigerwald   |
| 17 | Cheryl Acklin   |
| 18 | Brian Nostrandt<br>Evelyn Osborn  |
| 19 | Chris Porter  |
| 21 | Levi Hubbard<br>John King<br>Jacob & Joshua<br>MacKenzie<br>Sterling Porter |
| 22 | Bill Bruinsma<br>Betty Milliron   |
| 24 | Ron Phillips  |
| 25 | Kimberly Gilbert  |
| 26 | Andrea Frost<br>Julie Robinson<br>Our Church Family                         |
| 28 | Hugh Hessler  |
| 31 | Cory & Jessica Baklarz  |

## Catch These Coming Events

January 01 **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

January 04 **De-Decorate the Sanctuary**

January 20 **Dinner & Al's Academy on  
"The Murder of Lincoln"**

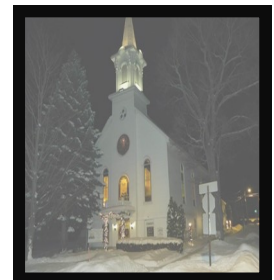
January 23 **Annual Meeting & Potluck**

January 26 **Our Church's Anniversary**

January 30 **Council Commissioning**

## Our Annual Meeting & Potluck Lunch

will follow the Worship Service on Sunday, January 23, 2022. Copies of the Annual Report will be available January 16 at the sanctuary doors, and proxy ballots are available at the end of the Report. The agenda will include the annual review, election of officers and approval of the 2022 budget. All input is welcome and official members are able to vote.



**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**2022**

# Pastor's Page

This winter is the time for all of us to venture into newness or renewal. I will need to renew my ability to deal with sub-zero temperatures, and you all will need to renew your commitment in paying homage to God's gracious and abounding blessings—with each other and Rev. Jim Petteys.

In not being able to find a replacement choir director, the congregation will need to become the choir and listener at the same time. Thank you, Rosemary Abbett, for picking out hymns.

Even when I'm here, sometimes the live-streaming doesn't always work out, as you all well know. Thank you, Leo Hughes for stepping up the computers in this effort to do your best.

Checking in with each other is going to be a necessity. The Outreach Committee will make Sunshine calls and Judy Grant will host "Coffee without Dinah. (If you'd like an occasional Sunshine call, let the church office know.)

Coming together on cold winter nights for a bit of dinner and finding out what Al Bryant has to say about various subjects is a good way to keep the spiderwebs from clogging up the brain. Thanks, Al, for your work.

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## Coffee withOUT Dinah

What started as a way to catch up with one another has become a way to keep in touch—even across the miles. Judy Grant has agreed to be the host for the Tuesday gatherings on Zoom at 2:00 p.m. If you'd like to be a part of this delightful group, send an email to Judy at [judykgrant@yahoo.com](mailto:judykgrant@yahoo.com). She'll send out the link each week and allow the great fun to begin. Younger and older are welcome to join them! (You'll need to bring your own coffee or other beverage of



## Welcome to our Interim Pastor, Jim Petteys.

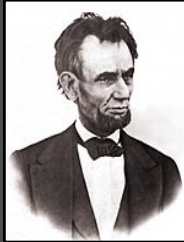
Jim retired from the Evangelical Lutheran

Church in America a few years ago to live in Honor with his lovely wife, Jan. He was also the pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church here in Frankfort, and at one point, shared the position there with Pastor Rick Stieve. We look forward to attending Jim's services while he is here and would ask that our church family wear their name tags to help him, and his wife Jan, become familiar with names and faces.

# Al's Academy

Thursday, January 20th  
Free Dinner and Program  
Everyone Welcome

## "The Murder of Lincoln"



The last known high quality image of  
Abraham Lincoln  
on the White House balcony, March 6, 1865

We will gather at 5:30 p.m. for a light  
supper before Al's program about the  
assassination of Abraham Lincoln. Bring  
your appetite, friends and neighbors.

(Continued from page 2)

And everyone will need to keep an eye out for the new masks (and faces) within the gatherings. Invite them back. Or for coffee fellowship. Or for a hot chocolate downtown. People think that nothing happens in the winter here in Frankfort. The truth is that there are a lot of new folks moving here, and we have a huge opportunity to welcome and reach out as followers of Christ.

I will probably check emails occasionally, and maybe Facebook every so often, so please don't be offended if I don't answer a communique immediately. Who knows, I could be digging out of a blizzard drift or enjoying the bliss of the big cities and their light rail systems. I hope to check into the Minneapolis Institute of Art to see some of the pieces that they are buying that were done by Phil Deloria's aunt. But more on that at another time.

I won't worry about any of you or anything in Benzie County, because I know there are great people here, some of whom are you! So just keep doing your thing, loving God and life and embracing all the joy. See ya in April!

Pastor Dinah

When  
snow  
falls,  
nature  
listens.

- Antoinette Van Kleef



If you shop with Amazon and you have been meaning to sign up for AmazonSmile, here is your reminder:

Go to <https://smile.amazon.com> (you must be logged in at this site before adding items to your shopping cart for a donation to work)

When prompted, type in "First Congregational Church" as your charity to support. (Just make sure it's the one in Frankfort, MI).

Thank you for giving to the ministry of this church family.



*Every moment is an  
opportunity to change  
your perspective.*

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# Council Minutes

## FCCF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 8, 2021

The Minutes from the November 10, 2021 meeting were reviewed. With no corrections noted, the Minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Rob Burch  
Offerings for November totaled: \$10,042.57  
Expenses November totaled: 10,433.61  
YTD Carryover: 9,534.66

Rob reports that the Budget is in very good shape at this time and following review was accepted as presented.

### Committee Reports

**Memorials:** Judy Welch – There was one donation in memory of Pat Kinske.

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

**Investment:** Chris Porter – The total of all Baird Accounts, as of November 30, is \$861,556.10.

**Nominating:** Myra Elias – See Unfinished Business

**Outreach:** Myra Elias for Kelly Ottinger –1) The Holiday Cookie Sale was very successful with proceeds totaling \$1,182.00. 2) A coffee fellowship time for Jim Petteys is being planned following his first service on January 2. 3) A new mask banner and a new Christmas Eve banner have been ordered. 4) Upcoming AI's Academy dates for 2022 are January 20, February 17 and March 17. 5) "Coffee Without Dinah" on Zoom will happen after the first of the year with Judy Grant facilitating; and 6) Calls will continue to those members/friends who cannot attend church services or are otherwise home bound.

**Personnel:** Myra Elias – Christmas bonuses; see New Business

**Property:** Myra Elias – Parsonage renovations during Pastor Dinah's Sabbatical will begin in January, pending the Congregation's approval. Myra has obtained bids for the repairs as described in our Council Report for the members to review. The Property Committee is requesting \$50,000.00 to cover all expenses. Following discussion of the financing of these projects and the urgency to get the projects started at the first of the year, Linda Schweyer made the motion that a special meeting of the Congregation be held on December 26 for the purpose of approving up to \$50,000.00 for the Parsonage renovations to be withdrawn from the Unrestricted Baird Funds as requested by the Council; Judy Welch seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.



**Worship:** Ann Osborn – 1) Upcoming events include: a virtual Christmas program featuring our children on December 19, Christmas Eve service on December 24, Rev. Jim Petteys' first day for pulpit fill on January 2 (Al Bryant will introduce), Sanctuary de-decorating on January 4, and Council Commissioning on January 30. 2) Jim will have office hours on Wednesdays from 10 am – 12 noon;

3) A substitute choir director is still TBD. 4) Head ushers are in place for all but three months in 2022.

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

**Unfinished Business:** a) Nominations for 2022 Council: One-year terms continue for the current Clerk, Financial Secretary, Asst. Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Asst. Treasurer, and Investment Representative. Bob King will finish Larry Neuhardt's term for one year, and new three-year terms will begin for Betty Webb, Sonia Duffy and Beth McNamara. A motion was made to approve the 2022 Council Slate by Chris Porter; Linda Schweyer seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed.

b) Budget approval: Bill Hirschfeld made a motion for Council to approve the Financial Committee's 2022 proposed General Budget but withdrew the motion due to questions and further discussion concerning Off-Budget items. Bill Hirschfeld re-instated the motion with an amendment his original motion to state that Council recommends the proposed 2022 General Budget be brought to the congregation at the Annual Meeting on January 23 for approval; Linda Schweyer seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed.

c) Benzie Community Chorus Request for Space: In response to the Benzie Community Chorus' request for office space in one of the Church's Sunday School rooms, the motion was made by Chris Porter that Council approve this request along with the Letter of Agreement between the Chorus and the Church; Bill Hirschfeld seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved. d) Additional pay for Rev. Jim Petteys: Jim Petteys has agreed to come in to the Church office each Wednesday from 10am – 12 noon for any pastoral care needs during Pastor Dinah's Sabbatical. With this added to his pulpit fill each Sunday and following discussion on adequate pay, the motion was made by Myra Elias that the Church pay Jim \$250.00 a week out of the Sabbatical Account; Linda Schweyer seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

**New Business:** Christmas bonuses: Myra Elias made the motion that Christmas gifts/bonuses for the Church staff remain the same as 2020; Linda Schweyer seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed.

**No Reports:** Constitution & By-Laws, Missions, Religious Education, Women's Fellowship.

Myra Elias, Council Chair, called for adjournment of the meeting at 5:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Osborn, Church Council Clerk



- Tom Osborn for fixing a hinge on a restroom cabinet
- Jim Buzzell for putting up the outdoor Christmas decorations on a somewhat blustery day. That's when it began to look like Christmas.
- Betty Webb for the use of her nativity sets during Advent. They were such a delightful addition to our worship.
- Those who gave hand soap and socks to Benzie Senior Resources for the Meals on Wheels Christmas gifts. Clean hands and warm feet are very good things!
- Those who helped with the Frankfort School Pantry this last week. Being home, with food, is a big deal for kids and parents alike.
- Those who purchased poinsettias for the Christmas Eve service. They are such a finishing touch to that evening.
- All who have stepped up to cover bases while Pastor Dinah is gone. This is when the church becomes "the church!"



- Mike McNamara for setting a goal nine months ago that in his 60th year, despite the pandemic, he would run, walk, hike, and climb 1,000 miles. On his 60th birthday he gave himself a present: his 1,002nd mile. Good for you, Mike!
- Maddy Charbonneau and Owen Chownyk on making all A's in the first quarter of school. Way to go!
- Tucker Hubbard on receiving an Academic 1st Team All-State award and the NMFC Legacy Division Offensive Player of the Year. That's all after school and homework and chores! Good for you, Tucker!
- Lauren Church on finishing her finals and senior year at Harvard. The official graduation will be May 2022, but in the meantime she will be taking a year to think about where to go to graduate school and has accepted a job offer to work in the lab at the Harvard biology department. What an amazing young woman!



There are openings for anyone who would like to host the

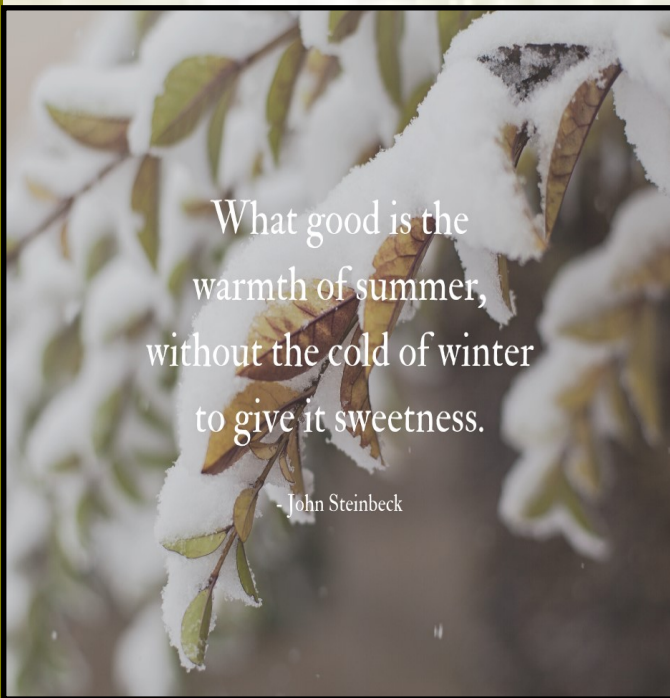


**Coffee Fellowship** time after church. The beverages are done for you, and tableware is provided. If you

want to bring something simple to nibble on while people get to know one another better, just let the church know and we can get your name in the slot you'd like!

## Thank you so much

To all who make the Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship Service such a special night. From readers to usher/greeters to the music and the cleaner-uppers, you are all so important and appreciated in the ministry of this church



What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness.

- John Steinbeck

## Please Remember in Prayer

### Prayer Concerns

Liz Acklin  
Cherie Boswell  
Peggy Burns  
Greg Cobb  
Theresa Duffy  
Michael Grajcar  
Melissa Grant  
Dori Hallquist  
David Hendrick  
Pat Hessler  
Dale Holmgren  
Walter Kidd  
Michael & Robin Lundy  
Margaret McHugh  
Linda Napper  
Ron Phillips  
Marjorie Porter  
Bonnie Reed Heaney  
Becky Reed Kelly  
Louise Reed  
Pete Reed  
Tina Reed  
Dennis Richards  
Kris Richards  
Dawn Schulz  
Robin Somero  
Dori Turner  
John & Peter Young

### Families of

Dick Brown  
Janice Heusted  
Madeline Mathieu  
RJ Rafferty  
Jill Robinson  
Jim Symington

### Military:

CJ Kinney  
Mike Kinney  
Tyler Kinney  
Ryan Ruddy

### Senior Living

**Cadillac**  
Don Bonderenko  
**The Homesteader**  
Bea Stone  
**The Maples**  
Dori Turner  
Gladys Wilson  
**Maple Valley**  
Steve Elrick  
**Orchard House**  
Pat Hessler  
Joan Miller  
Susie Vigland





For those interested,

## The Heavenly Holiday Cookie Sale

brought \$1,182 to the Women's Fellowship coffers. The Fellowship has done a lot of things over the years. Some of the many include replacing appliances at church and parsonage, replacing carpeting, giving seed money to the hot dog sale, and supporting people in the community who experience a house fire or other such tragic situations. And those are just the tip of the iceberg of what the women of this church family have done over the years! Thank you one and all for your help.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <b>New Year's Day</b>  Jessie Grant Pat Hessler Amy & Mark Steigerwald
2 <b>10:30 a.m. Worship</b>	3 4:30 p.m. MOBBI  Mason Gokey Colton Henry	4 8:45 a.m. MOBBI  1:00 p.m. Sanctuary De-Decorating  2:00 p.m. Coffee Without Dinah  4:00 p.m. Outreach Meeting	5 9:45 a.m. MOBBI  10:30 a.m. Worship Meeting	6 9:15 a. m. MOBBI  4:00 p.m. Property Meeting  <b>Epiphany</b>	7 10:00 a.m. Yoga	8   Christy Driggett Sherry Gigos
9 <b>10:30 a.m. Worship</b>  Abrianna Nostrandt	10 4:30 p.m. MOBBI  Naomi Kolehmainen	11 8:45 a.m. MOBBI  2:00 p.m. Coffee Without Dinah  <b>Human            Trafficking            Awareness Day</b>	12 9:45 a.m. MOBBI  4:00 p.m. Council Meeting	13 10:00 a. m. MOBBI  	14 10:00 a.m. Yoga  Melissa Koenig	15 <b>Carson Nostrandt</b>
16 <b>10:30 a.m. Worship</b>  Charlie Ottinger Amy Steigerwald	17 4:30 p.m. MOBBI  <b>Martin Luther            King Jr. Day</b>	18 8:45 a.m. MOBBI  2:00 p.m. Coffee Without Dinah  <b>Michigan Day</b>	19 9:45 a.m. MOBBI  Chris Porter	20 10:00 a.m. MOBBI  <b>5:30 p.m. Supper</b>  <b>6:00 p.m.</b> <b>Al's Academy</b> <b>"Lincoln"</b>	21 10:00 a.m. Yoga  Levi Hubbard John King Jacob MacKenzie Joshua MacKenzie Sterling Porter	22   Bill Bruinsma Betty Milliron
23 <b>10:30 a.m. Worship</b>  <b>Annual Meeting            &amp; Potluck</b>	24 4:30 p.m. MOBBI  Ron Phillips	25 8:45 a.m. MOBBI  2:00 p.m. Coffee Without Dinah	26 9:45 a.m. MOBBI  Andrea Frost Julie Robinson  First Congregational Church, Frankfort Anniversary	27 10:00 a.m. MOBBI  	28 10:00 a.m. Yoga  Hugh Hessler	29 
30 <b>10:30 a.m. Worship</b> and Council Commissioning	31 4:30 p.m. MOBBI  Cory & Jessica Baklarz	Kimberly Gilbert				

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