

Steepleviews

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

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Rev. Dinah Haag: pastor431@gmail.com
Church Office: secretary431@gmail.com

February 2020 Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Oliver Simmons
- 3 David Koenig
- 4 Ryan Strom
- 6 Evin Elias
Peggy & Ralph Jackson
- 7 Norma Bruinsma
Marty Davis
- 8 Asher Locicero
- 9 Jeff Frostic
Kelly Ottinger
- 10 Lori Dougherty
Leslie McElduff
- 12 Owen Chownyk
- 13 Colton Prance-Jewell
Paul A Robinson
Bob & Jan Condon
- 14 Molly Frostic
- 15 Amy King
- 16 Lacey Deloria
- 17 Cheryl Acklin
Sharon Grajcar
- 18 Judy Grant
- 20 Molly Harrison
Isabelle Osborn
Kati Prance
- 23 Tamara Hatch
- 25 Freddie Kolehmainen
Cooper Rath
- 27 Phil Deloria
Kris Dykstra
Charlene Lang
Josie Mendoza
Bill & Molly Frostic
Michael & Sharon Grajcar
- 29 Marilee Strom

Catch These Coming Events

- February 2 Communion Sunday
- February 4 Dine Out For BACN
- February 13 Al's Academy
- February 14 Valentine's Day
- February 19 An Art Collaborative
- February 26 Ash Wednesday



February 26, 2020
Please join us for
Worship Services with Ashes at
12:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Pastor's Page

The Pastor's Report in our 2020 Annual Report carried a theme of gratitude. This little missive carries the same theme.

Thank you out-going Council members, Mary Ann Harness, Leslie McElduff and Andy Mollema. Your time, efforts and energies have played a great part in the on-going ministry and history of this church, and I, for one, will be forever grateful.

Thank you in-coming Council members, LuAnn Elwell, Hugh Hessler and Jim MacKenzie. Jim has been on the Council before, but not as a "regular" member, so it's an appreciated gesture in being willing to serve this church family again. LuAnn is somewhat new to our church family, and Hugh is new to the Council, so their contributions will be greatly treasured.

Thank you, Rob Burch, for taking a different seat on the Council as Treasurer. Being a church treasurer is not an easy job, regardless of the church size, and Rob has even been anticipating serving this band of believers in this area even before being asked. Someone wanting to serve a church family in a complicated area is enough to make any pastor's day, no matter who the pastor is!

Thank you, too, all who voted to give me a salary raise. You did that after so many came together in giving me one of the largest Christmas "gifts" I can remember! It is humbling and precious vote of not only your pastor, but in God's ability to provide for all that we need—you and me.

I also appreciate the raises that were given to those who work for us. I know that they appreciate it, but it is also a statement of support in the way this place is kept and operates.

My appreciation isn't just about money, either. When I see people greeting one another with hugs at the top of the stairs, my heart just smiles. (I can't imagine what God's heart does when those moments happen!) And when I hear about someone speaking to a visitor, I'm glad that members of the family also take their call to reach in Christ's name seriously.

And when Person X asks how Person Y is doing, I am almost always blessed in that it is an inquiry, not of gossip, but one of genuine concern and care.

There are many who struggle among us as well as those who are doing well—in whatever area you may consider: mentally, physically, financially, socially, spiritually, etc. Whatever our circumstances, there is always something for which to be grateful, and in my case, there is an abundance of gratitude—at least on this day. I will be praying that each person who reads this missive will find not just gratitude today, but over-flowing gratitude—the sort that is called peace. Blessings to all of you, Pastor Dinah

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7

Al's Academy
 The Valentine's Day Massacre
 5:30 p.m. Free Dinner
 6:00 p.m. The Story

Friends, acquaintances,
 strangers with fedoras
 are all
 welcome.



An Art Collaborative

Come to explore your own true creative spirit!

What art or activity might bring you to a peaceful place, your peaceful place. Knitting, crocheting, embroidery, painting, drawing, cooking, singing, etc., etc.

Come for sharing and creating

Thursday, February 19, 11:00 a.m. until noon.

I will bring lots of paper, markers, paints and pencils. Questions? Contact Signe Ruddy

Valentine's Day Word Search

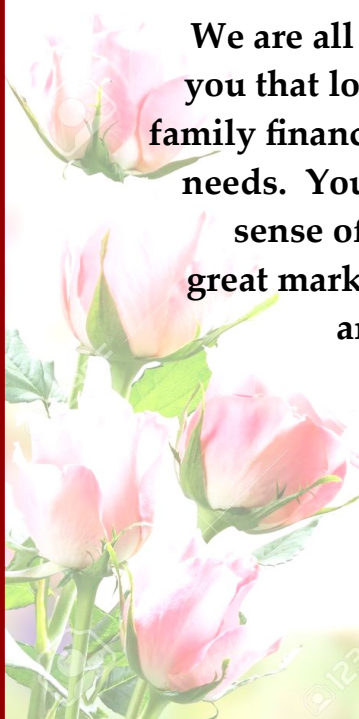
c g f l o w e r s i p
 j s w e e t h e a r t
 e f p a c u p i d a e
 v h o i k a c p s r t
 a o g u y h e a r t s
 l o v e r r d e g o f
 e k r a p t r r o w r
 n r i r o s e s p x i
 t o h s d r d e i r e
 i s u h s p i n n h n
 n r g a r e l l k t d
 e o s c h o s r o s h
 s w e e r t s f r i e
 v c h o c o l a t e k

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| valentine | red | roses |
| arrow | fourteenth | friend |
| cupid | hugs | flowers |
| hearts | chocolate | sweetheart |
| love | pink | kisses |

February is First Congregational Church's Council Appreciation Month

We are all so grateful to all of you that look after our church family financial obligations and needs. Your commitment and sense of responsibility are great marks of your character, and we are therefore doubly blessed.

Thank you
 for your time
 and willingness
 to serve all of us.



Council Meeting Minutes

FCCF Council Meeting Minutes January 8, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by Mary Ann Harness, Council Vice Chair, followed by the Opening Prayer.

Treasurer's Report: Andy Mollema

1. Offerings for Dec. totaled: \$17,256.49
2. Budgeted expenses for Dec. totaled: \$11,237.30
3. Carryover YTD: \$11,945.87

Committee Reports

Memorials: Judy Welch - there were no memorial contributions in December.

Finance: Judy Welch - See Treasurer's Report.

Investment: Andrea Frost - See Constitution & By-Laws Committee Report.

Constitution & By-Laws: Mary Ann Harness - a change as been made in the Investment Policy portion of the By-Laws; namely, that the Outreach Committee be combined with Religious Education. To reflect this, the Investment Policy proposes the amendment to the Investment By-Laws: All Funds withdrawn from the Investment Fund for use by the Property, Religious Education/Outreach and Mission Committees shall be used in the calendar year the disbursements were made. All unused funds shall be returned to the Investment Committee and deposited into the Investment Fund. Mary Ann asked that there be a motion for Council's approval for the above stated change. Judy Welch made the motion to approve; Paul Osborn seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Missions: Paul Osborn - This account remains fully funded.

Nominating: Myra Elias - all new Council members have accepted their nominations and will be welcomed at February's meeting, pending the approval of the congregation at the Annual Meeting.

Outreach: Andy Mollema - 1) A review of past events since the last Outreach meeting, including Bill's Bible Study on Daniel, the Community Thanksgiving Service, the Silver Tea and Bake Sale, and the Christmas Eve service with 150 worshippers attending. 2) Upcoming events include one more "Coffee's on Dinah" at Petals and Perks on January 28 and Al's Academy on Gangster History on January 30. 3) A welcome to Dennis and Chris Richards who transferred their membership from Benzonia Congregational Church. 4) The Christmas Eve banner arrived incomplete and will have to be reordered.

Personnel: Myra Elias - No report.

Property: Dinah Haag for Andrea Frost - The general yearly expenses, including snow removal, lawn care, fire extinguisher check, etc. will total nearly \$17,000 which will leave approximately \$635.00 left in the account. There is nothing crucial among the upcoming projects, as stated in the December Council Minutes, so no expenses are anticipated in the near future. There are other resources if any emergencies would arise; however, the future projects should be a primary consideration for completion down the road.

Religious Education: Bill Hirschfeld - No report.

Women's Fellowship: Kim Scripps - No report.

Worship: Ann Osborn - No report, but a reminder that the next Communion Sunday will be February 2.

Pastor's Report: Dinah Haag - Report submitted with two notations: 1) Pastor Dinah will be on vacation from January 12 to January 22, with Phil Deloria preaching and Rob Burch emceeding at the January 19 service; and 2) Pastor Dinah will begin the second half of the webinar series that began last fall; the series has given her a large amount of information thus far, and she is looking forward to the next series.

Unfinished Business:

1) Myra Elias, our Council Chair, will be out of town on January 26, therefore, Larry Neuhardt has graciously agreed to preside at the Annual Meeting. 2) There had been thought and discussion on changing the date of the church's fiscal year to begin on January 1, however, in double checking our By-Laws, this will not be necessary as it already states it does begin on January 1. 3) Regarding our two current sources for the Constitution & By-Laws and the Investment Policy, the wording/verbiage could be reviewed at some point for any changes or updates. 4) 2020 Budget: Following discussion, a motion was made by Paul Osborn and seconded by Mary Ann Harness for the Church Council to recommend changing the Investment Committee's proposal. The new proposal is to withdraw 5%, up to a ceiling of 6%, out of the Baird Account for the allotted expenditures. Motion passed.

New Business: None

Myra Elias, Council Chair, called for the meeting's adjournment at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Osborn, Church Council Clerk

Cards of Thanks



BACN

Thank you for donating the Media Cart to BACN. We just spent part of our staff meeting today brainstorming several uses. It will be put to immediate use. Thank you also to Bill & Molly for transporting! Kelly & the BACN gang

Jane Buth

What a wonderful surprise! As I opened the gifts I kept feeling that everything was just right for me. Either someone knew me or an angel was whispering in somebody's ear. All of the gifts are to my taste. I like being thought of..

Community Spirit Food Source Inc.

A letter from CSFS gave thanks for our monthly donation to their programs. Their programs included the yearly Scholarship Program, Student Services Program, donations of personal care items to the Frankfort-Elberta Schools as well as holiday assistance to families in need such as gift cards and food.

Baily Grant

Thank you so much for the thoughtful and generous gift. As a full time student at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, this gift will certainly come in handy.



Jessie Grant

Thank you so very much for your generosity in sending me a check! I just graduated from Baylor University in December with a degree in business majoring in entrepreneurship and finance. It has been such a blessing to have prayer and financial support throughout the past few years. I'm praying about going overseas and will likely use the money for that.

Morgan Papineau

Thank you so much for your generous Christmas gift this holiday season! It was a great surprise to receive in the mail and I appreciate it very much! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season! Thanks again for thinking of me! Wishing you all a Happy New Year!

Cecelia Schmitt

Thank you so much for your continued support. It is one of the most amazing things about this community—the wonderful encouragement I receive every year. I truly am blessed. I hope to see each of you soon in 2020.

Congratulations

- Michael Greenmeyer born December 25, weighing in at 9 lbs., 13oz. He spent a little time in ICU, but according to great-grandma, Liz Acklin, all are well.
- Luke Reed has had a big month! He was named to the Alma College Fall 2019 Dean's List (the fourth time on that list), received the Most Valuable Award and the Leadership Award at the Alma College Cross Country team awards banquet, and finished first for Alma in six out of seven races this season and third for all time for Alma in 5K cross country races and 8th all time for Alma in 8K races. On top of all that, he proposed to his new fiancé, Sarah Stolz, and plans to graduate from Alma this spring.
- Amy Schindler won the MHSFCA* Fran Herrington Woman of the Year Award for all of the work she has done to support Football throughout the years. GO MUSTANGS GO TROJANS GO ELKS GO PANTHERS. She has been there for all of the Championships and the down years. (*Michigan High School Football Coaches Association)
- John Baldwin, Rosemary Abbett's grandson, on receiving a Technical Certificate in Operations Support and Management, on the road to his business management degree.

Please Remember in Prayer

Prayer Concerns:

Ed Baldwin
 Bob Carter
 President Carter
 John Chiotti
 Myra Elias
 Pat Hessler
 Dale Holmgren
 Marshel Holmgren
 Scott Johnson
 Victoria Mekas
 Ron Phillips
 Elizabeth Harness-
 Richardson
 Paul Robinson
 Ryan Ruddy
 Serenity Schulz
 Michelle Stanley
 Matt Tuller
 Del Wagner
 Gladys Wilson

Military:

Dawn Bonderenko
 Joe Cartwright
 Matthew Conrad
 Mike Kinney
 Tyler Kinney
 Clark Robinson
 Ryan Ruddy

The Families of:

Robert Boylan, Sr.
 Ron Clevenger
 Betty Croft
 The Deans
 Mike Eckhout
 Ruth Nugent
 Marce Keillor
 Robert Zwinck

Senior Living:

Frankfort Senior Care
 Al Bryant

Orchard House

Pat Hessler
 Susie Vigland

The Homesteader

Moore Peregrine
 Bea Stone

The Maples

Karen Collins
 Jan Condon
 Gladys Wilson



Dine Out For Benzie Area Christian Neighbors

at Jim's Joint BBQ in Honor &
 Stormcloud Brewing Co. in Frankfort
 on Tuesday, February 4th
 and 10% of your dinner
 bill will be donated to
 BACN.



*First Congregational
Church of Frankfort
February 2020*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>February is</i> American heart Month</p>						1 Oliver Simmons
2 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School Communion Sunday	3 3:15 & 6:00 p.m. MOBBI Classes David Koenig	4 10:15 a.m. MOBBI Class 4:00 p.m. Coffee's On Dinah Ryan Strom	5 9:45 a.m. MOBBI Class 4:00 p.m. Worship Mtg 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	6 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group 11:15 a.m. MOBBI Class 4:00 p.m. Outreach Mtg. Evin Elias Peggy & Ralph Jackson	7 8:30 a.m. MOBBI Class 2:00 p.m. Treasurer's Meeting Norma Bruinsma Marty Davis	8 Asher Locicero
9 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School Jeff Frostic Kelly Ottinger	10 3:15 & 6:00 p.m. MOBBI Classes Lori Dougherty Leslie McElduff	11 10:15 a.m. MOBBI Class 2:00 p.m. Coffee's On Dinah 4:00 p.m. Property Meeting	12 9:45 a.m. MOBBI Class 4:00 p.m. Council Meeting 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal Owen Chownyk	13 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group 11:15 a.m. MOBBI Class 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:00 p.m. Al's Academy Colton Prance-Jewell Paul A. Robinson Bob & Jan Condon	14 8: Molly Frostic	15 Amy King
16 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School Lacey Deloria	17 NO MOBBI Class Cheryl Acklin Sharon Grajcar	18 10:15 a.m. NO MOBBI Class 2:00 p.m. Coffee's On Dinah Judy Grant	19 9:45 NO MOBBI 11:00 a.m. An Art Collaboration 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	20 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group 11:15 a.m. MOBBI Class Molly Harrison Isabelle Osborn Kati Prance	21 8:30 a.m. MOBBI	22
23 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School	24 3:15 & 6:00 p.m. MOBBI Classes	25 10:15 a.m. MOBBI Class 2:00 p.m. Coffee's On Dinah Cooper Rath Freddie Kolehmainen	26 9:45 MOBBI Class 12:00 & 7:00 .m. Service o Ashes 4:00 p.m. Missions Mtg. 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	27 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group 11:15 a.m. MOBBI Kris Dykstra Phil Deloria Charlene Lang Josie Mendoza Bill & Molly Frostic Michael & Sharon Grajcar	28 8:30 a.m. MOBBI	29 Marilee Strom

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 Frankfort, MI 49635



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Announcements	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7	2	Jim & Robin MacKenzie Sonia Duffy, Larry Neuhardt	Naomi Kolehmainen
Birthdays	1, 7			
Calendar	7	9	Linda & Dave Schweyer Dawn & Serenity Schulz	Becky Addis
Council Minutes	4			
Greeters	8	16	Chris & Marjorie Porter Ann Osborn, Leslie McElduff	Jim McKenzie
Prayer List	6			
Congratulations & Thank You's	5, 6	23	Jill Smeltzer, Sue King Bill Hirschfeld, Alma House	Robin McKenzie
Ushers	8			