

# Steepleviews

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

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

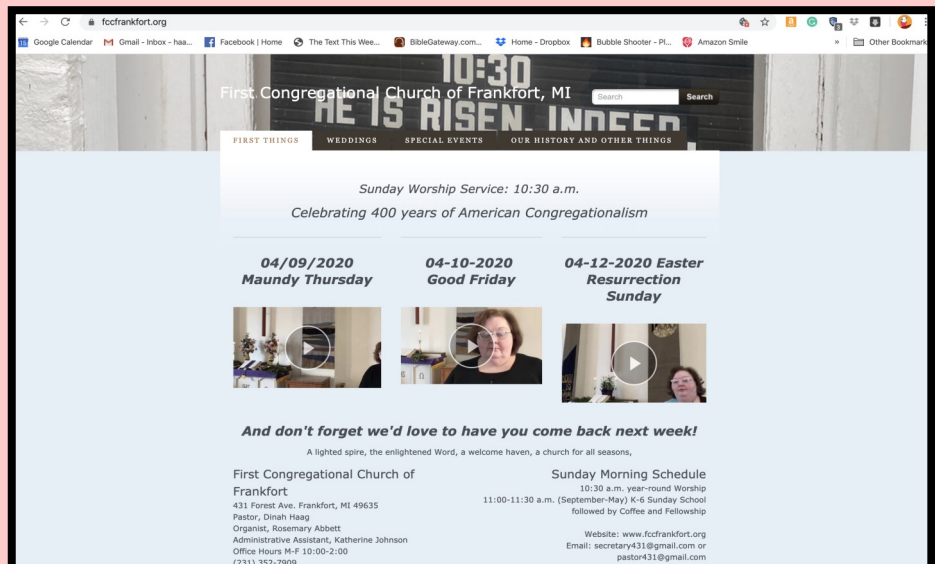
## Anniversaries & Birthdays

May 2020

- 01 Kerry Buzzell  
Jackson Deloria  
Tyler Grant  
Richard Henry  
Dylan Prance-Jewell
- 02 Michael Grant  
Julie Hirschfeld  
Amber Holmgren  
Nicole Holmgren
- 03 Mary Bateman  
Mariah Manning  
Beth McNamara  
Candace Nostrandt
- 05 Betty Webb  
Janet Pomerleau
- 06 Mary Dykstra  
Leo Hughes  
Serenity Schulz
- 07 Liam Condon  
Bob King
- 08 Jacob Grant  
Gail Nugent
- 09 John Henry  
Alma House  
Chia Yang
- 10 Michael Mendoza
- 13 Marijke Church
- 19 Tommy Mendoza  
Dawn Schulz  
Jill Smeltzer  
Molly & Scott Harrison
- 20 Jared & Jordin Kelly
- 21 Becky & Matt Addis
- 22 Michael Elwell
- 24 Emilie Lepke  
Katherine & Randy Johnson
- 27 Donna Phillips  
Faith & Jack Dulaney
- 28 Andy & Marti Mollema
- 29 Randy Johnson  
Julie Morris  
Sean Morris
- 30 Gus Gigous

Come and Visit Our Website @  
[www.fccfrankfort.org](http://www.fccfrankfort.org)

*Our website offers so many topics of interest. Check out our calendar, newsletters, bulletins, sermons, wedding info, special events, congregational history and much more.*



# Pastor's Page

You know you've been through a pandemic when—

- You watch the virtual National Football League Draft—just for a change of pace.
- You get excited to see a person—in person.
- Gas is less than \$1.00 a gallon—and that's not the biggest news of the day.

It is no news that the major topics of discussion have been centered around Covid-19 and the economy. Those two aspects of life have held our attention, held us in their grip and maybe it's felt a little like being held prisoner.

For whatever goofy reason, when the stay-at-home order came, and how folks were bristling against it, I thought about people in jail or prison. Take the justification of their plight off the table, and just look at their situation. Close quarters, freedom removed to do what they want, when they want, without the ability to get their affairs in order first. If nothing else, perhaps some of us can be a bit more patient with restricted movement, as well as having a little more appreciation for the incarcerated, regardless of rights or wrongs—or for those in countries more sequestered than ours.

According to quora.com, ""Fear not!" is the most repeated command in the Bible. In fact, it's been said that there are 365 "Fear nots" in the Bible — one "Fear not" for every day of the year! Lloyd Ogilvie in *Facing the Future without Fear* even said there are 366 "Fear nots" in the Bible, one for every day of the year, including Leap Year! God doesn't want us to go a single day without hearing his word of comfort: "Fear not!"

It's so easy to say "Don't be afraid." And we can understand that to a certain degree—on some level. But sometimes, even for no apparent reason, human nature invites fear to stick its toe in the door, and before we know it, we've gone down a hallway we had no intention of traveling, sometimes staying there for a lot longer than we wanted.

However, our human emotions and thoughts do not diminish God's promises. In the end, all will be well. We aren't told how we will get to that place of wellness—except that it will not include life as we have known it.

Even all the good things in life can take our attention away from the idea that our time on this earth is but a blink in the light of eternity. It is so very human that our attention can become unbalanced.

The greatest thing is that there is no shame or guilt or any other negative in remembering to recalibrate the balance of our lives, and God's love for us never changes, no matter what we do—or don't do.

So keep the mask at hand—for now. Keep distant from those you don't live with—for now. Do all those other things we're supposed to be doing to stay well in our current situation. And know that one day we won't have to work to keep our equilibrium, and that we will be able to do so much more than we can imagine today. Until that time, you can heed this naggy pastor's words—that you are—always have been—always will be—in the palm of God's hand. Hang in there, folks! We will be able to gather once again—sometime—hopefully soon.

## About COVID-19 and This Church

The outbreak of coronavirus has created many changes in how we meet as a congregation. Online services has allowed us to come together as a church family. Coronavirus is spread primarily by person-to-person. We want to inform everyone that even though we are not physically meeting in the church, that our cleaning crew is sanitizing and cleaning the church on a regular basis. They are doing this so that when we can all come together again we can rest assured that it is safe to do so. In the meantime we need to follow the tips recommended by the CDC on preventing the spread by:

- Washing hands thoroughly using soap and water for 20-30 seconds and/or alcohol-based sanitizer
- Maintain social distancing
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth. Once on your hands the virus may enter your body
- Practice respiratory hygiene by covering your mouth and nose with a tissue or bent elbow when coughing or sneezing. Dispose of used tissue immediately
- If you have a fever, cough or difficulty breathing, seek medical care early. If you have shortness of breath, call 911 immediately.

### Questions About COVID-19?



Call the COVID-19 Hotline at 888-535-6136,  
7 days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Email COVID19@michigan.gov 24/7. Emails  
will be answered 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



## There are a lot of new babies this Mothers Day!

Amelia Jane, born to Nicole Holmgren and Doug Rath on March 16th, at 10:33am. 6 lbs., 14 oz., and 20.5 inches long.

Grandma Myra Elias is smitten, too!

Wesley Vernon Henry, born on Wed. April 22 at 5:41 p.m. Mom Cassie, Dad Chuck and big brother John are so excited - as are all of his other church family members!

Ronan Shepherd Rafferty, born April 19 at 11:01 p.m., 9 lbs., 4oz., and 23 inches long to Emily (Wagner) and RJ Rafferty and big brother Beau. They are all happy he's finally here.



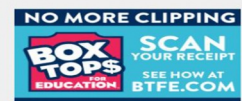
## Box Tops for Education

Box Tops for Education is phasing out of clip-ables to digitals. Instead of getting out the scissors or knife, now you can take out your phone and scan your receipt. Your ten cents per participating product will be sent directly to the school of your choice. To get the app and for more information, you can go to [www.https://www.boxtops4education.com/](https://www.boxtops4education.com/)

THE OLD  
BOX TOPS CLIPS



THE NEW  
BOX TOPS LABELS



# Council Meeting Minutes



## FCCF Council Minutes-Via Zoom April 8, 2020

The Minutes from the March 11 Meeting were reviewed and with no corrections noted, were approved as presented.

### **Treasurer's Report: Rob Burch**

Offerings for April totaled:	\$19,221.74
Budgeted expenses for April totaled:	8,886.44
Carryover YTD:	3,077.24

The financial health of the Church remains strong thanks in part to substantial offerings in March. The Baird Fund has dropped due to the financial instability of late (see Investment Report totals). Following Rob's review, the Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

### Committee Reports

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

**Investment:** Andrea Frost – As of April 8, Stocks totaled: \$319,098.55; Bonds totaled \$265,917.92; the total in the Baird Investment Fund: \$585,016.62.

**Constitution & By-Laws:** Jim MacKenzie—No report

**Missions:** Paul Osborn—This account remains fully funded

**Outreach:** Kelly Ottinger—1) All anticipated or possible future activities have been put on hold during the Coronavirus shutdown. 2) Lines of communication will continue with an email program through Constant Contact, which allows for more professional and easily read emails.

**Property:** Myra Elias -- No report with a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 14

**Religious Education:** Bill Hirschfeld – No report; however, Pastor Dinah did include the children on Palm Sunday by asking them to take pictures depicting Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem. She received several and showed them during the Palm Sunday Service.

**Worship:** Ann Osborn – 1) Pastor Dinah and FCCF have held three Facebook Live services since March 22, and each service has been viewed by more people each time. 2) A Maundy Thursday Service will be held on Facebook Live at 7:00 p.m., April 9. 3) A Good Friday Service will be held on Facebook Live at 12:00 noon on April 10. 4) The Easter Sunday Service will be on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m. on April 12, with those wishing to participate in Communion doing so at home. 5) Pastor Dinah will continue to print a bulletin for Sunday services and email it for those that wish to follow scripture passages.

**Pastor's Report:** Dinah Haag – Report submitted, with a couple of items of note: 1) Until further notice, Worship Services will continue to be posted online through Facebook Live, with streaming the Services right to the web page also being explored at this time. 2) An attempt will be made to have smallish gatherings of individuals for virtual coffee or beverages, plus Pastor Dinah has begun the practice of calling to check in on 3 to 4 individuals each day during our time of social distancing.

**Unfinished Business:** A replacement for Kim Scripps on the Council is still needed.

**New Business:** Due to time sensitivity, it was decided by an emergency meeting of the Pastor, the Council's Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer that the Church, as it is eligible, should apply for a loan through the Paycheck Protection Program, part of the CARES Act. The forms were signed and taken to the State Savings Bank, who will then submit to the Small Business Administration. This will be a safety net depending on how long the Coronavirus Shutdown will be. We do not have to use the money (\$18,000) and can return if not needed.

**No Report:** Memorials, Nominating, Personnel, Religious Education, Women's Fellowship

Larry Neuhardt, Council Chair,  
called for meeting adjournment at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Ann Osborn, Church Council Clerk

# Congratulations

- Luke Reed on graduating from Alma College and on his recognition at the annual Alma College event, Kapp Honors Day, which recognizes the original research and creative work of student presenters across all academic majors.
- Serenity Schulz who won a place for two weeks at Blue Lake Summer Music Camp playing clarinet. Even though the camp has been canceled, it is still a great honor!



- To all who have sent in your tithes and offerings! Your ability to do so have demonstrated an amazing faith and hope in the future ministry of this church family!
- To Jim MacKenzie for changing a light bulb, fixing a faucet and reinforcing an attic frame. Even during a pandemic, utilities continue to need utilization.
- To Bill Frostic for fixing the peeling wallpaper in the church front entrance and caulking around the alley exit.

I am  
With  
you.  
- GOD

# GOD IS MY STRENGTH AND POWER

2 Samuel 22:33

Please Remember  
in Prayer

## Prayer Concerns

Aaron Anderson  
Ed Baldwin  
Al Bryant  
Nora Bungard  
John Chiotti  
Denis Crosby  
Lucas Crosby  
Marnie Curtis  
Johnny Frostic  
Sherrie Gigous  
Mary Alice Hafer  
Alan Hasko  
Hugh Hessler  
Pat Hessler  
Kathy Hughes  
Peggy Jackson  
Ray Jarocki  
Scott Johnson  
Gaylord Jowett  
Lisa & Ed  
Molly & Sang Nguyen  
Kelly & John Ottinger  
Ron Phillips  
Elizabeth Harness-  
Richardson  
Julie & Paul Robinson  
Judy Sterling  
Marilyn Switzer  
Matt Tuller  
Gladys Wilson

## Military

Mike Kinney  
Tyler Kinney  
Clark Robinson  
Ryan Ruddy

## The Families of

Alex Alexander  
Jacqueline Henry  
Phyllis Kulman  
Sue McNutt  
Patty Pohlman

## Senior Living

*Frankfort Senior Care*  
Al Bryant

## *Orchard House*

Pat Hessler  
Shirley Kerr  
Susie Vigland

## *The Homesteader*

Moore Peregrine  
Bea Stone

## *The Maples*

Karen Collins  
Jan Condon  
Gladys Wilson



## A Few Things To Teach Your Children or Grandchildren During COVID-19

**Whistle.** This simple skill tops the wish list for preschoolers everywhere.

Try whistling with a blade of grass.

**Grow** a plant from seed.

**Tie** a necktie. They will feel grown-up when they ditch clip-on ties for the real thing.

**Write** a thank you note. This is a skill your kids can use for the rest of their lives.

**Identify** a bird by its' features and call.

**Ride** a two-wheel bicycle.

**Tie** their own shoelaces.

**Do** push-ups, sit-ups, jumping jacks, and other exercises. Make healthy physical exertion fun.

**Discover** the world from home. Explain what a globe is, then spin it. Have them stop it with their finger and tell them about the country they landed on including time, climate, and cultural specifics.

**Shake** hands firmly.

**Tell** time on an analog clock with hour and minute hands.

**Tie** different kinds of knots ie. slipknot, butterfly knot.

**Make** a sandcastle.

**Play** a musical instrument.

**Twirl** a hula hoop.

**Tell** a joke and give pointers on making their punchlines stand out.

# First Congregational Church of Frankfort May 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>May is National Stroke Awareness Month</i>	<i>May is ALS and Celiac Disease Awareness Month</i>	<i>May Is Mental Health Month</i>	<i>May Is National Bike Month</i>	<i>May Is National Pet Month</i>	1 Kerry Buzzell Jackson Deloria Tyler Grant Richard Henry Dylan Prance-Jewell	2 Michael Grant Julie Hirschfeld Amber Holmgren Nicole Holmgren
3 10:30 a.m. Digital Worship Via Facebook Live  Mary Bateman Mariah Manning Beth McNamara Candace Nostrandt	4	5  Janet Pomerleau Betty Webb	6 4:00 p.m. Worship Mtg. Via Zoom  Mary Dykstra Leo Hughes Serenity Schulz	7 4:00 p.m. Outreach Mtg. Via Zoom  Liam Condon Bob King	8  Jacob Grant Gail Nugent	9  John Henry Alma House Chia Yang
10 10:30 a.m. Digital Worship Via Facebook Live (Unless we can gather in person!) <b>Happy Mother's Day!</b>  Michael Mendoza	11	12 4:00 p.m. Digital Property Meeting	13 11:30 a.m. Min. Assoc. Mtg. 4:00 p.m. Digital Council Meeting  Marijke Church	14 	15	16
17 10:30 a.m. Digital Worship Via Facebook Live (Unless we can gather in person!)	18	19 Tommy Mendoza Dawn Schulz Jill Smeltzer Molly & Scott Harrison	20  Jared & Jordin Kelly	21  Becky & Matt Addis	22  Michael Elwell	23
24 10:30 a.m. Digital Worship Via Facebook Live (Unless we can gather in person!)  Emily Lepke Katherine & Randy Johnson	25  Happy Memorial Day	26	27  Donna Phillips Faith & Jack Dulaney	28  Andy & Marti Mollema	29  Randy Johnson Julie Morris Sean Morris	30  Gus Gigous
31 10:30 a.m. Digital Worship Via Facebook Live (Unless we can gather in person!)	<i>May Is Haitian Heritage Month</i>	<i>May Is National Smile Month</i>	<i>May Is Jewish American Month</i>	<i>May Is American Wetlands Month</i>	<i>May Is Get Caught Reading Month</i>	<i>May Is National Vinegar Month</i>

# Steepleviews

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



<i>Table of Contents</i>		<i>Date</i>	<i>Greeters/Ushers Head Usher: Aurelius Augustinus Hipponensis</i>	<i>Sunday School Teachers</i>
Anniversaries	1, 7			
Announcements	1, 2, 3, 5, 7	3	Hildegard of Bingen, Bonaventure, Basil the Great, Francis of Assisi	Dwight L. Moody
Birthdays	1, 7			
Calendar	7	11	Anjeze Gonxhe Bojaxhiu, Jorge Mario Bergoglio, Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone, Karol Jozef Wojtyla	Stephen Colbert
Council Minutes	4			
Greeters	8	17	Antoinette Brown Blackwell, John Cotton, Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield	Jimmy Carter
Prayer List	5			
Congratulations & Thank You's	5	24	Elizabeth Hopkins, Priscilla Mullins, Rose Standish, Susanna White Winslow	John Grisham
Ushers	8	31	Henry Ward Beecher, Charles Finney, Thomas Hooker, Cotton Mather	Ron Garan