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

June 2020 Anniversaries & Birthdays

- Hugh & Pat Hessler
- 03 Liz Acklin Kendra Nuske
- 06 Kim & Stuart Scripps
- 08 Julie & Paul Robinson
- 10 Luke Reed Crystal & Steve Rath
- 11 Bob Condon
- 15 Elizabeth Steigerwald Paula Steigerwald
- 17 Donna & Ron Phillips
- 18 Jane Tarnecki
- 19 John & Mary Bateman
- 20 Cassie & Chuck Henry
- 21 Jean & Tom Hafer
- 24 Noreen Henry Lillian Osborn
- 25 John Ruckrich Jeff & Michelle Frostic
- 26 Carolyn Lalas Jennie Schmitt Eva Strom Liz & Tony Ponce de Leon
- 28 Connie Bennehoff Robin Somero
- 29 Marilyn Switzer
- 30 Emory Duffy Michael Grajcar



So much is a-stir, you will have to read the Pastor's Page to be informed!





Pas/or's Page

One would think that if people aren't gathering for Worship, that the other aspects of church life would be rather quiet, too. Far from it, my friends!

The big one, of course, is that for those who feel comfortable and healthy, you are welcome to come to the sanctuary for our new normal worship beginning this coming Sunday, May 31. It is understood that not everyone will feel comfortable, and that's fine. For those folks, and for other reasons, our online sermons/ services will continue. For those who chose to come, make sure to put your mask on before you enter the building and work hard to resist the hugs!

The second big thing that has happened lately is that we received the news that Patty Pohlman left us a lovely gift from her estate. An ad hoc (as needed) committee has been working on how we can honor Patty in the handling of the money. There will be more information on that coming in the future. I found a couple of photos of her, for those who find familiarity in her name.





In speaking to our Baird guy, Ed Schindler, he suggested that I let you all know that the Federal Coronavirus Tax Relief Bill allows taxpayers to claim up to \$300 of charitable contributions as a tax deduction on their 2020 taxes even if they are not itemizing.

As much as we've experienced inconveniences, the virus and its effects has caused some timely and good things to happen. In that vein, our National Association of Congregational Christian Churches' Annual Meeting is going online. It is usually a 3-4 day

event where Congregationalists gather from all over the world. We've not had a presence at the meeting for many years, because it was a rather large cost (room, board, travel, registration fees, etc.). This year, being online, there is no fee to attend, so any of us can attend!

We are in need of an official delegate and an official alternate delegate to this conference on Saturday, June 27 at 3:00 p.m. If you are interested in serving this church family in this way, just let me know so we can get the proper certification for you. I'm guessing that it will be on Zoom, but if you don't have a computer or internet, don't let that intimidate you. Those are small hills to overcome.

While our Financial Secretary wanted to let you know that your gifts are truly appreciated, because we don't have that little Missions basket in front of us, the gifts in that area are a little lower than the general giving. So if you are able to help out in that area, just let us know that, too.

Our gardening person retired last year, so if anyone has 15 minutes to lend at a church garden, it would be so appreciated. Just leave the weeds in a pile and we can pick them up later.

One of the hard decisions that have had to be made here is the cancelation of our July 4th Hot Dog Sale. It has been a part of the holiday's tradition for so many for a long while. But for this year, it would be impossible to figure out any sort of ordering, not to mention the numbers of folks that might be around.

On a personal note, I continue to be amazed and humbled by the ongoing gifts people continue to send in. With all that is going on, your generosity is not only inspiring but remarkable. Thank you all for all that you are able to do for this church family.

Hang in there folks. I've been praying for you and will continue to do so. It will get better and we WILL get to sing together in worship again! Pastor Dinah

Thank you John Buryou

Thank you to everyone who sent birthday cards (150+), and to all my friends who gathered in front of my house, decorated with over 90 balloons, beautiful flowers and gifts, who sang happy birthday waving and cheering with a trumpet playing, followed with a a parade of cars and city firetrucks and EMT vehicles!

A special thank you to those who took part in decorating and planning this special surprise.

Who would have thought during this pandemic that I could have the best 90th birthday ever!

All my love, Alma - 90 years young!

Congratulations

- Grace Henry for making the Honor Roll at Fresh Wind's Christian Academy.
- Cooper Rath shared the honor with another boy for the top in their Computers Class 2 for the school!
- College Graduates—
 - Coleman King Schindler, Albion College
 - ◆ Cecelia Schmitt, U of M
 - ◆ Cameron McCool, grandson of Alma House, from Elon University in North Carolina
 - Luke Reed, Alma College, for making the Dean's List
- High School Graduates—
 - Bella Gigous from Lighthouse Connections Academy
 - Tate MacKenzie (Ypsilanti), grandson of Jim and Robin.
 - ◆ Grace McCool, Alma House's granddaughter, from Suttons Bay High School
 - Penelope Penfold-Patterson, granddaughter of Alma House, who will be attending New York University this fall for musical theater
 - ◆ Jane Turner, graduating from FEAS, cousin to Cecelia Schmitt, niece of Jennie Schmitt and granddaughter of Dori Turner



Thank you to Marti and her brother, Tom, for the lovely display of daffodils, crocuses and hyacinths they planted last fall. It's wonderful to see such uplifting colors at this time.



Council Meeting Minutes

FCCF Council Minutes—Via Zoom April 8, 2020

The Minutes from the April 8 meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Rob Burch

Offerings for April totaled: \$7,965.00 Budgeted expenses April totaled: 10,467.67 Carryover YTD: 2,345.39

Our Budget is in good shape. There were several questions noted in the Report and those will be double checked. A gift has been given to the church from the Patty Pohlman Estate – see New Business #2. Following discussion, the Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Committee Reports

Finance: Judy Welch – See Treasurer's Report

Investment: Andrea Frost: As of May 13, Stocks: \$339,260.00; Bonds: \$270,195.00; total Baird Investment Fund: \$609,455.00.

<u>Missions</u>: Paul Osborn – This account remains fully funded, with a meeting scheduled for May 27.

<u>Outreach</u>: Kelly Ottinger - 1) While we are sad to not be meeting together, the online Sunday service viewing stats have greatly expanded our outreach capability; 2) Pastor Dinah is learning the ropes with the email platform Constant Contact to present a more polished communication forum as needed; 3) People have enjoyed leaving positive messages and pictures in front of the church with the provided sidewalk chalk; and 4) A grant was given to BACN from the 2018 Hot Dog Sale proceeds, and a thank you goes to Dawn Schulz, through her coupons at area dollar stores, which has provided BACN with replenished goods and children's clothing.

<u>Personnel</u>: Myra Elias – Pastor Dinah's yearly evaluation was held on May 12 with high marks given. It was decided that her evaluations can be held every other year unless a need arises.

Property: Myra Elias – 1) The church's furnace has been acting up with adjustments being made by Tom Whiting. A new furnace may be needed as our present one is very old; Tom will check the pricing for this. 2) The storm replacements for the Sanctuary windows is still a work in progress, but the Committee will now obtain a firm quote as this project needs to be completed.

Women's Fellowship: - See Unfinished Business

Worship: Ann Osborn – 1) Pastor Dinah will continue to print out Sunday bulletins despite our Facebook Live services. 2) Pastor Dinah hopes the Council will approve a Reopening Ad Hoc Committee (See New Business #3). 3) A donation of \$100.00 is being given to the Baby Pantry in honor of Mother's Day; and 4) Worship services at the long term care facilities have been temporarily canceled.

Pastor's Report: Dinah Haag - Report submitted

<u>Unfinished Business</u>: Vacant Council Seat: A motion was made by Myra Elias that the Council accept Mary Reed's offer to fill Kim Scripps' vacated seat. Judy Welch seconded the motion. Motion passed

New Business:

See Pastor's Report: NACCC Annual Meeting

No Report: Memorials, Constitution & By-Laws, Nominating, Religious Education.

Larry Neuhardt, Council Chair, called for the meeting adjournment at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Osborn, Church Council Clerk



- Jim MacKenzie for fixing a dead light fixture ballast.
- Donna Phillips for washing all the pillows in the sanctuary (there's a first time for everything).
- Katherine Johnson for fixing one of the more loved pillows.
- Robin MacKenzie for allowing us to use two of her banners during Lent.
- Jim Buzzell for fertilizing the church grounds. That's so awesome!
- Marti Mollema for the fresh flowers at the May 3rd Worship Service.
- Dawn Schulz for doing some very savvy shopping for BACN essentials—soap, toothpaste, children's clothing, shoes, laundry soap.
- Jeanne Hafer, Molly Harrison, Julie
 Hirschfeld, Marjorie Porter and Cecelia
 Schmitt for serving us on the ReOpening Ad
 Hoc Committee. Their thoughts and input are
 a big part of how we are going to move
 forward—for the time being.
- Rob Burch, Myra Elias, Andrea Frost, Bill
 Frostic, Larry Neuhardt, Mary Reed and Judy
 Welch for serving on the 2020 Bequest Ad Hoc
 Committee. Their time and attention has been
 of great help in the receiving of a gift from
 Patty Polhman's estate.
- Jeanne Hafer for doing some odd jobs around the church to get ready for May 31st including some weeding out front!
- Andrea Frost for making daily checks on the church boiler while it's been in hospice. Now that we don't need heat, it's been turned off for the last time.
- Chris Porter for making a stand for the PPE barrier on the pulpit and also for helping to determine total capacity in the church per Covid-19 regulations.
- Bill Frostic for caulking the North Fire Exit & for mending some issues in the front foyer.

Please Remember in Prayer

Prayer Concerns

Aaron Anderson Peggy Andrews Ed Baldwin Al Bryant Nora Bungard Jim Buzzell John Chiotti Denis Crosby Lucas Crosby Marnie Curtis Johnny Frostic Sherrie Gigous Mary Alice Hafer Alan Hasko Hugh Hessler Pat Hessler Peggy Jackson Scott Johnson Eleyne Levitt Molly & Sang Nguyen Kelly & John Ottinger Luc Parriott Ron Phillips Porter family Elizabeth Harness-Richardson Iulie & Paul Robinson Linda & David Schweyer Matt Tuller Amy Walker Eric & Karen Williams Gladys Wilson

<u>Military</u>

Mike Kinney Tyler Kinney Clark Robinson Ryan Ruddy

The Families of

Lloyd Arnold Carol Bright Karen Coussens John Eipperle Naomi Fillingham Bob Fuksa Mary Alice Hafer Esther Harrison Kathy Hughes Kurt Luedtke Tom Zatkovic

Senior Living

Orchard House

Pat Hessler Shirley Kerr Susie Vigland

The Homesteader

Moore Peregrine Bea Stone

The Maples
Karen Collins
Jan Condon
Gladys Wilson

Safe journey to Lauren Church as she returns to the East coast for a while. Her family (and

church family) is very proud of her as she continues to embrace a vision of hope and solving problems. Lauren is joining other Harvard student volunteers to collaborate with MIT students to design a contact tracing app for COVID.



Safari Animals

Play online at...

thewordsearch.com/puzzle/11/

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LION LEOPARD CHEETAH RHINO **ELEPHANT HIPPO GIRAFFE** CROCODILE ZEBRA BABOON **HYENA SPRINGBOK** GAZELLE KUDU WARTHOG CIVET **ELAND**



First Congregational Church of Frankfort June 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 World Milk Day	² National Rocky Road Day	3 4:00 p.m. Worship Meeting National Egg Day	4 4:00 p.m. Outreach Meeting	5 World Environment Day	6 D-Day, WW11
		Hugh & Pat Hessler	Elizabeth Acklin Kendra Nuske	Hug Your Cat Day		Kim & Stuart Scripps
7 10:30 a.m. Worship: Digitally and In Person	8	9 4:00 p.m. Property Meeting	10 11:30 a.m. Ministerial Association Mtg.	11	12	13
Communion Sunday	Best Friends Day	Donald Duck Day	4:00 p.m. Council Meeting Via Zoom		Anti-Child Labor Day	
	Julie & Paul Robinson		Luke Reed Crystal & Steve Rath	Bob Condon		
14 10:30 a.m. Worship: Digitally and In Person	15	16	17 11:30 a.m. Min. Assoc. Mtg.	18	19	20
FLAG*DAY	Elizabeth Steigerwald Paula Steigerwald		Donna & Ron Phillips	Go Fishing Day Jane Tarnecki	John & Mary Bateman	Summer Begins Cassie & Chuck Henry
21 10:30 a.m. Worship: Digitally and In Person	22 World	23 International	24 9:30 a.m. Human Services Collaborative Mtg.	25	26	27 3:00 p.m. NACCC Annual Meeting
Happy Father's Day Jeanne & Tom Hafer	Rainforest Day	Widows Day	Noreen Henry Lillian Osborn	John Ruckrich Jeff & Michelle Frostic	Carolyn Lalas Jennie Schmitt Eva Strom Liz & Tony Ponce de Leon	Helen Keller Day
28 10:30 a.m. Worship: Digitally and In Person	29	30 Meteor Day				RIP
Connie Bennehoff Robin Somero	Marilyn Switzer	Emory Duffy Michael Grajcar				

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Date	Greeters/Ushers <u>Head Usher:</u> Jeanne Hafer
7	Bill & Julie Hirschfeld Cecelia Schmitt & Judy Welch
14	Molly & Scott Harrison Larry Neuhardt & Mary Reed
21	Jeanne & Tom Hafer Dawn & Serenity Schulz
28	Jim Buzzell & Myra Elias