

Steepleviews

First Congregational Church of Frankfort
431 Forest Ave
Frankfort MI 49635

Website: www.fccfrankfort.org
Rev. Dinah Haag: pasor431@gmail.com
Church Office: secretary431@gmail.com

November 2020

- | | |
|----|------------------------------------|
| 02 | Tamara Sokolowski
Melody Wright |
| 03 | Marjorie Porter |
| 05 | Ezra Church |
| 06 | Larry Neuhardt |
| 7 | Jaxon Grant |
| 10 | Noreen & Richard Henry |
| 13 | Jeanne Hafer
Jen Kennedy |
| 14 | Matt Reed |
| 15 | Morgan Cole |
| 16 | James Daniel
Luanne Elwell |
| 17 | Mike Morris |
| 19 | Al Bryant
Jim & Robin MacKenzie |
| 24 | Tom Richmond |
| 26 | John Nuske |
| 28 | Jason Kolehmainen
Marti Mollema |
| 29 | Norma Godsey
Mike McNamara |



- | | |
|--------|---|
| Nov 1 | All Saints Sunday
Daylight Savings Time Ends |
| Nov 3 | Election Day |
| Nov 11 | Veterans Day |
| Nov 26 | Happy Thanksgiving! |



We will Celebrate the Circle of Life in reading **The Necrology** (those who have passed on to eternal life this past year) & **The Cradle Roll** (those born into our earthly life this past year) as part of our Worship Service on November 1st. Please submit all names to the church office before Worship that day.

November 1, 2020



Pastor's Page

Just like most everything else this year, the holidays are going to be a little different this year. Whether your Thanksgiving dinner will be courtesy of the Banquet company or your feast will be one of homemade specialties, there will be a lot of folks who will not be feeling the gratitude they normally would. So we can pray for them.

There will be others who will be grieving the fewer folks around the table, and we can pray for them, too, that despite their grief, it will still be okay.

Knowing the longing that some will feel for any ounce of normalcy this coming Thanksgiving season, the Ministerial Association went organic, homemade and virtual, in hopes that even though the video can't replace the gathering of hearts on a late fall afternoon, perhaps it will give a little extra warmth to your heart this year, perhaps like an extra blanket on a cold night and the difference it can make.

Or you can take this prayer (continued p. 3)

O, Bountiful God:

We thank thee for food
and remember the hungry.

We thank thee for health
and remember the sick.

We thank thee for friends
and remember the friendless.

We thank thee for freedom
and remember the enslaved.

May these remembrances stir us to service,
that thy gifts to us may be used for others.

Amen. — *Abigail van Buren*

"Here's the Scoop"

Furnace News



Out With The Old



Special thanks to
Tom Whiting of
Thomas
Mechanical,
Cooper Rath and
all the others
who helped to
make this
happen!!!



In With The New



The Benzie County Area Ministerial Association Offers Everyone

A Virtual Community

Thanksgiving Worship Service

It will be aired on YouTube and Facebook
Sunday, November 22, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Search YouTube, Facebook or your church website for
BCAM Virtual Thanksgiving 2020.

Join with family, friends and neighbors
in this service of gratitude and thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving 2020 (con't.)

And use it for your Thanksgiving—meal or snack or even breakfast—that it can connect your heart in ways that feel familiar and comfortable, like a favorite old coat.

Not everyone is liking what has often been called a “new normal.” But I wonder if the first explorers felt that same way when they came here, wanting to honor the customs of home and tradition, honoring the One who provides and protects us in more ways than we may ever realize. They might not have had wild turkey or mussels in their “old country,” but if the good Lord provided them for eating, then the people could honor the gift in giving thanks.

Regardless of the condition of the world or our lives or hearts, there is one thing that will never change. God will never change God’s faithfulness, love, concern and mercy for any of us. And for that alone, let God’s people say a loud, “Amen!”

Pastor Dinah



Not everyone realizes that there are options for
“Going to Church”.

- Facebook Live—as it happens in the Sanctuary
- Church Website—Sunday afternoon at fccfrankfort.org
- IN PERSON—Masked and distanced of course!

So often, in the midst of doing something, we think of something else we want to do, then forget, because we want to continue whatever it is we were initially doing. So here’s a reminder—if you were meaning to—to put the newsletter down and send a



check to the church at

431 Forest Ave,
Frankfort, MI 49635.

The coffers really
appreciate your help!



First Congregational Church of Frankfort, MI gets to join with **BENZIE SENIOR RESOURCES** in reaching out to the senior citizens in our county.

- This year we will be collecting
- Cheese Cracker snacks
 - Sugar free cough drops
 - Liquid hand soap
 - Small packages of sanitizing wipes

Most all the churches in our area join in this project that delivers a Christmas gift to our seniors who receive Meals on Wheels, and in some cases, what BSR puts together may be the only gift they get that year.

Your donations may be left in the Church Dining Room on the table designated for this collection. And thank you so much for being part of this village that cares about ALL our people.

The items will be picked up in early December from the Church.

Pick up date—December 7, 2020



FCCF Council Meeting Minutes October 14, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm by Vice Chair, Larry Neuhardt, followed by the Opening Prayer.

The Minutes from the September 9, 2020 meeting were reviewed. With no corrections noted, the Minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Dinah Haag for Rob Burch
Offerings for September totaled: \$ 4,947.00
Expenses for September totaled: 8,343.06
YTD Carryover: *-10,823.73
*this amount needs clarification

Rob, in his written notes, stated that our financial performance through September is in good shape considering the impact of COVID-19.

Committee Reports

Memorials: Judy Welch – two memorial gifts were given in September in honor of Andy Mollema and Moore Peregrine totaling \$50.00.

Finance: Judy Welch – see Treasurer's Report

Investment: Andrea Frost – As of October 14, Stocks: \$404,130.16; Bonds: \$266,682.38; Pohlman Fund: \$139,488.05; the total in the Baird Investment Fund: \$810,300.59.

Constitution & By-Laws: Jim MacKenzie – there is a meeting scheduled for next week with Pastor Dinah to finalize the changes and bring said changes to the Council members for review at November's meeting.

Missions: Paul Osborn – this account remains fully funded.

Nominating: Larry Neuhardt – work has begun on slate of officers for next year.

Outreach: Dinah Haag for Kelly Ottinger – The Church's annual Halloween Open House is canceled this year; however, we will have the church restrooms open for any trick or treaters as well as a safe way to distribute candy by using eave troughs on the slope between the church and the parsonage.

Personnel: Myra Elias – no report

Religious Education: Bill Hirschfeld – 1) The Bible Study for October has been tabled for now but may still happen in the near future; and 2) Sunday School has resumed helped by Serenity Schulz and the Sunday School teachers.

Women's Fellowship: Mary Reed – no report

Worship: Ann Osborn – 1) the Committee reviewed September's activities; 2) a page in the November Steepleviews will contain a Prayer for Thanksgiving; 3) the Ministerial Association is planning a Community Thanksgiving Service via Zoom or You Tube; 4) the theme for Advent this year will be The Year of the Tree, with both adult and children's devotionals following this theme; 5) discussion began on how the Sanctuary will be decorated for Advent; 6) in thinking ahead, perhaps there will be two Christmas Eve services this year; and 7) upcoming events include: LaFond /Carter Wedding on October 17, All Saints Sunday on November 1, the Community Thanksgiving Service on November 22; and the next Communion Sunday on December 6.

Pastor's Report: Dinah Haag – report submitted

Unfinished Business: 1) The Bequest Ad Hoc Committee, before disbanding, will have one more meeting to discuss the \$100,000.00 Pohlman Estate monies; and 2) the Reopening Ad Hoc Committee gave permission for the Yoga and the MOBBI Classes to start up again in the church's Parlor.

Larry Neuhardt, Vice Chair, called for the meeting's adjournment at 4:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Osborn, Church Council Clerk

Congratulations!

- **Welcome Xander James Cole!**
Xander was born on Oct 2nd to Brady and Heather. Brady is Jeanne Hafer's son. " When he got here, he came at 12:15 a.m. on October 2nd and weighed 9 lbs 7 oz!



- **Congratulations, Grandma Chris and Grandpa Dave Anthony** on the birth of Azeleah Rose, born on October 14th to Alexis and Eric of Corpus Christi, TX



- **Congratulations to Ryan, Trish & big sister, Eva Strom** on the arrival of Jack Ellis! Born on Oct. 21, he came in at 7 lb, 8 oz, & 20 ".



- **Mason Rath** loves running! Cross country season was short this year but Mason made the best of it. He has a new PR in the mile with 6:37! His team is incredibly fast and will be so fun to watch in the future!

- **Congratulations, Walker Schindler, Frankfort's Homecoming King, 2020.** Reagan Thorr is the Homecoming Queen. We're sure they are a king and queen at home, too!



- **Jim & Robin MacKenzie** for taking gleaned goods from dollar stores via Dawn & Serenity Schulz to the Women's Resource Center. Not only do all their efforts keep new merchandise out of landfills, but their efforts help people that are struggling in so many ways, thus helping to fulfill our commission to help those who need assistance. Way to go Team FCCF.
- **Marti Mollema** for the lovely fall arrangement on the altar.

Please Remember in Prayer

Prayer Concerns

Christian Baron
Portia Butler
Joel Buzzell
Jimmy Davis
Norma Elias
Mrs. Gaylord
Douglas Gould
Michelle Healy
Pat Hessler
Mike Horten
Jillian Kindl
Jay Lamerson
Victoria Mekas
Larry Neuhardt
Nicole Nostrandt
Ron Phillips
Nancy Reed
Cheryl Reichel
Julie & Paul Robinson
Dawn & Serenity Schulz
Bob Smale
Mark Stoltz
Scott Welling

Military

Mike Kinney
Tyler Kinney
Clark Robinson
Ryan Ruddy

Senior Living

The Homesteader

Bea Stone

The Maples

Karen Collins
Jan Condon
Gladys Wilson

Orchard House

Pat Hessler
Shirley Kerr
Susie Vigland

For the families of



Lane Frame

Andrew Newbolt

Jason Sichuan

RMD-QCD – Benefitting your church (and your taxes)

If you are over 71 and have IRA accounts, you are probably already aware of the RMD – Required Minimum Distribution. The RMD is the amount that the IRS mandates that you take as income each year from your IRA (now starting with the calendar year in which you turn 72).

Did you know that you can use some of your RMD as a QCD (Qualified Charitable Distribution)?

If you don't need all of your RMD funds for living expenses and prefer not to pay income tax on them, a QCD can help you support the First Congregational Church of Frankfort and/or another charity. You can send part (or even all) of your RMD directly to the church and/or charity as a QCD. A QCD does not count as income on your federal or state tax return, so you pay no income tax on it. However, the QCD cannot also count toward itemized deductions on your tax return.

IRA custodians, such as Vanguard, Fidelity, banks, and credit unions, have the "paperwork" or online forms to make a QCD.

Our church is officially named First Congregational Church of Frankfort. Your IRA custodian can mail the QCD check to you (already made out to the church) for you to mail or deliver personally. Alternatively, you can direct your IRA custodian to mail the check directly to the church at 431 Forest Ave, Frankfort, MI 49635. For specifics, consult your IRA custodian or your financial or tax advisor.

Notice taken from First Congregational Church of Benzonia's newsletter.



FESTIVAL of TREES

at the **BENZIE AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM**
OUTDOOR PAVILION

6941 Traverse Ave. • Benzonia

A **Virtual Silent Auction** of Decorated Trees,
Wreaths & Table Decorations

Friday, November 27th
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 28th
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 29th
12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

This year the Festival will be **online bidding only**. Our location is behind the museum outdoors in the pavilion. You may view in person using the appropriate distancing measures with mask. Or, you may wish to view items online. Visit benziehabitat.org and on Facebook at Benzie Habitat for more information about this event and how to bid!

www.benziehabitat.org



Thanksgiving WORD SEARCH

cranberries	potatoes
stuffing	pilgrims
family	dinner
rolls	gravy
thankful	November
friends	turkey
autumn	dessert
corn	pie

EDHKFHRPILGRIMS
YFWYVOOFFABTULD
GKACMYLRXUZHBJE
NQC MRNLVSTHACLS
IFDYIASQYUPNOGS
PARCFLNUMMRGE
IPMIBZYBONEFNRR
NGOSERDNEVKUWAT
TVVTTNZIXRELVVM
UPNPAUDKNIRMAYS
RIGNWTF SWNMIBWM
KEIKDKOFDGEFEEK
EHKXRQDEIPJRZSR
YXZCTKXKSNKGJK
GGGEJSWNYGGMGYK



First Congregational Church of Frankfort 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30 a.m. Worship  Daylight Savings Ends All Saints Sunday	2 3:30 p.m. MOBBI Tamara Sokolowski Melody Wright	3 11:00 a.m. MOBBI  Election Day Marjorie Porter	4 10:00 a.m. MOBBI 4:00 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting	5 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group 4:00 p.m. Outreach Committee Meeting Ezra Church	6 Larry Neuhardt	7  Book Lovers Day Jaxon Grant
8 10:30 a.m. Worship	9 3:30 p.m. MOBBI	10 11:00 a.m. MOBBI 4:00 p.m. Property Committee Meeting Noreen & Richard Henry	11 10:00 a.m. MOBBI 4:00 p.m. Council Meeting  VETERANS DAY NOVEMBER 11, 2020 A Blessed Veterans Day to All	12 Jeanne Hafer Jen Kennedy	13  World Kindness Day Jeanne Hafer Jen Kennedy	14 Matt Reed
15 10:30 a.m. Worship Morgan Cole	16 3:30 p.m. MOBBI James Daniel Luanne Elwell	17 11:00 a.m. MOBBI Mike Morris	18 10:00 a.m. MOBBI 4:30 p.m. Investment Committee Meeting	19 Al Bryant Jim & Robin MacKenzie	20 	21
22 10:30 a.m. Worship  3:00 p.m. Virtual Community Thanksgiving Worship	23 3:30 p.m. MOBBI	24 11:00 a.m. MOBBI Tom Richmond	25 10:00 a.m. MOBBI	26  Happy Thanksgiving John Nuske	27 	28 Jason Kolehmainen Marti Mollema
29 10:30 a.m. Worship Norma Godsey Mike McNamara	30 3:30 p.m. MOBBI	 November				

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Announcements	1, 2, 3, 5, 7	1	Phil Gates, Sonja Duffy Jim Buzzell, Myra Elias
Birthdays	1, 7		Jeanne & Tom Hafer
Calendar	7	8	Molly & Scott Harrison
Council Minutes	4		Bill & Julie Hirschfeld,
Greeters	8	15	Jim & Robin MacKenzie
Prayer List	5		Pat Kinske, Leslie McElduff
Congratulations & Thank Yous	3	22	Marti Mollema, Mary Reed
Ushers	8	29	Waldo Haag, John Ruckrich Dennis & Kris Richards