

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

December 2018

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 02 Tom Hafer
Kendra Lewis
- 03 Jim Buzzell
Kathy Crosby
Daniel Jewell
- 05 Denis Crosby
- 09 Becky Hubbard
- 10 Peggy Jackson
Marv Prepejchal
- 11 Dan & Sandy Gill
- 15 Stuart Scripps
- 16 Missi & Randy Gilbert
- 18 David & Melissa Koenig
Clark & Sarah Robinson
- 19 Joanne Brown
Liv Buzzell
Judson Rath
Carol & Doug Ehle
- 20 Rosemary Abbett
Genevieve Pomerleau
- 22 Doug Ehle
- 23 Joel Buzzell
- 25 Joe Hubbard
- 26 Barb Ikens
- 29 Ryan Ruddy
John Walthorn
- 30 Nathan MacKenzie
- 31 Michael Webb
Billee & Ron Wardwell



Dec. 1 Annual Silver Tea
Saturday from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
A Christmas Cookie & Bake Sale will be featured

Dec 04 Dine out for BACN at
Dinghy's Restaurant & Bar in Frankfort
The Roadhouse in Benzonia

Dec 14 Poinsettia orders due

Dec 16 A Christmas Pageant
Presented by First Congregational Church
10:30 am (Rehearsal on Saturday Dec 15th at 10 am)

Dec 19 Christmas Caroling Party
6:00 pm, POMH Lobby, The Maples, Culminating at
Bill & Julie Hirschfeld's, 1006 Hall St., Frankfort

Dec 24 Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
7:00 p.m., Open Communion at 6:45 p.m.

Pastor's Page

A Christmas Prayer

(The following Christmas prayer was delivered by U.S. Senate Chaplain Peter Marshall on Dec. 19, 1947, in the U.S. Senate, addressed to a victorious nation recovering from World War II.)

We thank Thee, O God, for the return of the wondrous spell of this Christmas season that brings its own sweet joy into our jaded and troubled hearts. "Forbid it, Lord, that we should celebrate without understanding what we celebrate, or, like our counterparts so long ago, fail to see the star or to hear the song of glorious promise.

"As our hearts yield to the spirit of Christmas, may we discover that it is Thy Holy Spirit who comes - not a sentiment, but a power - to remind us of the only way by which there may be peace on earth and good will among men. " May we not spend Christmas, but keep it, that we may be kept in its hope, through Him who emptied Himself in coming to us that we might be filled with peace and joy in returning to God. Amen."



(found in the Joyful Noiseletter Nov. 2015)

"If Christmas didn't already exist, man would have had to invent it. There has to be at least one day in the year to remind us we're here for something else besides our general cussedness." - Eric Sevareid



This psychologist got it right. After studying for nine years the role that gratitude plays in happiness, Robert A. Emmons, a professor of psychology at the University of California-Davis, concluded that grateful people are happier people.

"People who show gratitude experience higher levels of joy and other positive emotions, have lower levels of depression, are less bothered by minor illnesses, and actually take better care of their health," Prof. Emmons told the Sacramento Bee.



"For three things I thank God every day of my life: thanks that He has granted me knowledge of His works; deep thanks that He has set in my darkness the lamp of faith; deep, deepest thanks that I have another life to look forward to - a life joyous with light and flowers and heavenly song."
- Helen Keller blind and deaf from infancy



New Members

Jeanne & Tom Hafer

met at Western Michigan University in the 70's while Tom was attending the university and Jeanne was visiting her sister. Tom was the roommate of Jeanne's future brother-in-law. They dated briefly but married others and raised their families. They were reacquainted while attending Jeanne's niece's wedding and rekindled their romance. They were married in Jamaica on the beach in 2011 and currently live in Benzonia. Tom is originally from North Canton, Ohio but moved to Chelsea, Michigan for his high school years. He moved to North Canton after college. He is currently in the transportation industry.

Molly & Scott Harrison

Scott and Molly met at the University of Iowa and have been married for 45 years. They lived for several years in Central Illinois before moving to Des Moines, Iowa where they raised their 3 daughters. Scott has had careers as a hospital administrator, president of an insurance company and as CEO of a nation-wide senior living company. Molly spent many years in education and finished up her employment days working with refugees through a not-for-profit agency. Molly's family has made Frankfort a summer home for over 60 years and in 2017, she and Scott became permanent residents of the city. They have 6 grandchildren living in cities that are fun to visit!

Marilee Strom was raised in Honor, the daughter of Ellis and Edna Weaver (who were members at FCCF.) She and Wayne were married in 1981, moving across the street from her childhood home. They have two sons, Brent and Ryan, both of whom are married to wives Mikaela and Trish. (Ryan and Trish and their daughter Eva are also members of FCCF.)

First Congregational Church of Frankfort

invites you to the annual festive start of the holiday season

The Silver Tea

Saturday, December 1 * 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

A Christmas Cookie and Bake Sale will be featured.

431 FOREST AVE. • FRANKFORT, MI • 231.352.7909



FCCF is once again participating with other churches for the **Benzie Senior Resources Christmas Project** of delivering gifts to those

who receive Meals on Wheels. We've been asked to contribute fleece lap blankets and toilet tissue.

Collected items will be picked up on Monday, December 10, and until then we will collect them on a table in the church dining room. Thank you for your consideration in your holiday giving.

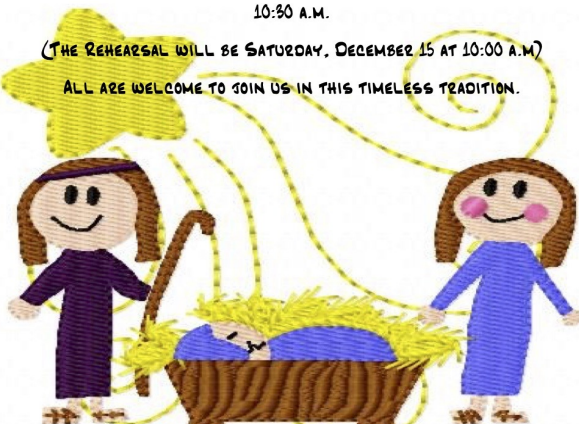
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FRANKFORT
PRESENTS

A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2018
10:30 A.M.

(THE REHEARSAL WILL BE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15 AT 10:00 A.M.)

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US IN THIS TIMELESS TRADITION.



First Congregational Church of Frankfort, NACCC
431 Forest Ave., Frankfort, MI 49635

Please Join Us In Celebrating the Birth of Christ at Our Annual

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

7:00 p.m. - December 24th

Open Communion Will Be Served Beginning at 6:45 p.m.

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School & Child Care Provided

Rev. Dinah Haag 231-352-7909 www.fccfrankfort.org



The All Church Christmas Caroling & Party

Will be
Wednesday,

December 19th!

We'll meet at the Paul Oliver Hospital lobby for Christmas caroling at the Living & Rehab Center at 6 p.m. After serenading the residents of The Maples and various other places, we will head over to Bill & Julie Hirschfeld's, 1006 Hall St, Frankfort, around 7:30 p.m.

for some food & togetherness. Beverages for all ages will be provided, but a dish to share would be appreciated. Feel free to invite friends and bring the family.

Steepleviews

FCCF Council Meeting Minutes November 14, 2018

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

Treasurer's Report: Andy Mollema

1. Offerings for October	\$ 8,863.00
2. Expenses for October	\$10,484.36
3. Carryover for October	\$ 1,645.61

Committee Reports

No Report: Memorials, Investment, Const. & By-Laws, Religious Ed.

Finance: Judy Welch - see Treasurer's Report

Missions: Andy Mollema - this account remains fully funded

Nominating: Myra Elias - Paul Osborn and Kim Scripps have agreed to fill the two new vacancies beginning in February, 2019.

Outreach: Dinah Haag for Judy Grant: 1) The children's movie our church has sponsored on the Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend will be changed this year to the last Saturday in December; 2) Coming events include the Community Thanksgiving Service at St. Ann's on November 20, Cookie Decorating and Dinner on November 29, and the Silver Tea on December 1; and 3) Proceeds from the Fall Festival Cake Walk totaled \$229.00 and will be given to the Chamber of Commerce.

Personnel: Myra Elias - The Committee met to discuss proposed changes to 2019 salary and benefits for our administrative assistant.

Property: Andrea Frost - 1) With funds available (see Treasurer's Report), the air conditioning unit for the Sanctuary will be installed along with a new electrical box; 2) The carpets will be cleaned on November 21; 3) The stonework on the east side of the church will be completed in the spring; 4) The doors on the east side of the church will be refinished in the spring.

Women's Fellowship: Mary Reed - the Silver Tea is fast approaching (December 1), and there was discussion on several items regarding this event.

Worship: Ann Osborn - 1) The Committee met on November 11 to pick out Thanksgiving and Christmas bulletin covers; 2) Sanctuary decorating has been scheduled for November 27; and 3) The next Communion Sunday is December 2.

Pastor's Report: Dinah Haag - Report submitted with two items of note: New Member Sunday is November 25, and FCCF has been issued a \$27.49 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation between July 1 and Sept 30.

Unfinished Business: none

New Business: Review, discussion, and approval of the proposed 2019 Budget. Following review and discussion, Andrea Frost made the motion for Council approval of the Finance Committee's proposed 2019 Budget to be presented to the congregation at January's 2019 Annual Meeting; Bill Hirschfeld seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjournment at 5:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Ann Osborn, Church Council Clerk



The Nativity set on the altar this year is a combination of two sets that have been in my family for years. The manger itself was brought to this country over 125 years ago from Oberammergau Bavaria Germany where they have been putting on the Passion Play for 380 years. It was first performed in 1634 as the result of a plea made by the inhabitants that if God would spare them from the Bubonic plague, they would put on the play every ten years. The original figures were made of paper-mache and did not survive. The present figures were sculpted by hand by an artist that I met when we lived in Washington DC. They are a bit different than the usual representations. They are made out of clay and consist of Mary, Joseph, Jesus, the three kings a camel, a donkey, a cow, the innkeeper, his wife and the shepherd & his wife as well as several sheep & a cat & a dog.

Come up for a closer look. Pat Kinske

Poinsettia Order Form



4.5" red plant _____ @ \$4.25

6" red plant _____ @ \$6.35

6.5" red or white plant _____ @ \$8.50

In loving memory of _____

Or

In honor of _____

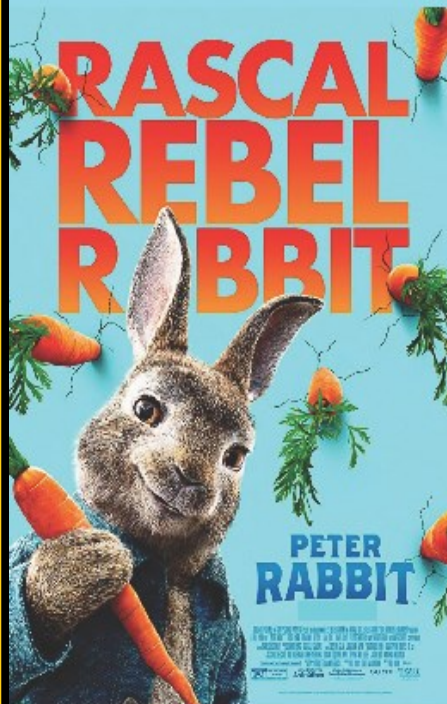
Given by _____

Please enter how many poinsettias you would like of each size
and return order form to the Church Office by
Friday, December 14th. Thank you.

amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Want to gift
FCCF if
you're
shopping at
Amazon?
Instead of
typing

Amazon.com, type
smile.amazon.com. You can
register FCCF as the recipient
of their 0.5% price of eligible
purchases. AmazonSmile is the
same Amazon you know.
Same products, same prices,
same service. Thank you!



FREE HOLIDAY MOVIE

Saturday, December 29
at the Frankfort
Garden Theater
2:00 p.m.

Admission, small popcorn
and small soda sponsored by
Frankfort Congregational
Church

Rated PG

Thank You

- Mary Ann Harness, Ann Osborn, Marti Mollema, Dawn & Serenity Schulz for decorating, redecorating and decorating again the church dining room. Fall can be a complicated time of year, so your efforts are especially appreciated.
- To all who helped with the Halloween Open House. 1,555 people came through the doors on Halloween, and the great tradition gladdened so many hearts. From near and far. Without all our volunteers, it just couldn't happen.
- To all who helped with the Fall Festival Cake Walk. You have no idea of how happy you make young and old when they can win a cake! It's pure joy to be such a support of our larger community!
- Marti Mollema and her brother, Tom, for planting bunches of spring bulbs in around the church. It was not only a huge gift of love, but it will be such a delight to see all of them in the spring!
- Our church choir for providing a very real and musical enhancement of our Sunday morning worship services. Your loyalty and musicianship are deeply appreciated by so many.

Congratulations

- Kelly & John Ottinger on the marriage of their son, Charlie, to Jessica on Nov. 10 in Destin, Florida
- Rick Schmitt and crew on receiving the Outstanding Business Member of the Year award at last night's Benzie County Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner.

Please Remember in Prayer

Ernie Balcueva
 Kyle Beyette
 Dawn Bonderenko
 Denise Brown
 Sue Chandler
 Denis Crosby
 Doug Ehle
 Andrea Frost
 Judy Furber
 Laurie Gorden
 Judy Grant
 Peggy Harban
 Pat Hessler
 Cameron Holland
 Veronica Jamros
 Amy Jones
 Marce Keillor
 Jim Lalas
 Sally Lavender
 Michelle Master
 Andy Mollema
 Carl Pace
 Lisa Parriott
 Elaine Peterson
 Ron Phillips
 Kate Polermo
 Terry Robertson
 Andrea Robinson
 Josh Schulz
 Serenity Schulz

Shelley Scripps
 Ginny St. Onge
 Mark Steigerwald
 Donna Steward
 Bea Stone
 Edna Teatro
 Mike Viilo
 Les Webb

The Families of:
 Carl Nesper, Jr.

Those In the Military:
 Matthew Conrad
 Cheyenne Dubois
 Mike Kinney
 Mike Porter
 Clark Robinson
 Ryan Ruddy

Those in Senior Living:
 Jan Condon
 Danielle Gardner
 Pat Hessler
 Moore Peregrine
 Susie Vigland



**Dine Out For
 Benzie Area
 Christian Neighbors**

**at Dinghy's in Frankfort
 and**

**The Roadhouse in
 Benzonia on Tuesday
 December 4th, and
 10% of your dinner
 bill will be donated to
 BACN.**



First Congregational Church of Frankfort

December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 1:00 p.m. Annual Silver Tea
2 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School & Communion Tom Hafer Kendra Lewis	3 6:00 p.m. Bal-A-Visx Jim Buzzell Kathy Crosby Daniel Jewell	4 9:30 a.m., 1:00 & 2:00 p.m. MOBBI Classes Dine Out for BACN: Dinghy's & The Roadhouse	5 9:30 a.m. MOBBI Class 4:00 p.m. Worship Mtg. 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal Denis Crosby	6 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group 2:00 p.m. MOBBI 3:00 p.m. MOBBI	7 	8
9 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School Becky Hubbard	10 6:00 p.m. Bal-A-Visx Peggy Jackson Marv Prepejchal	11 9:30 a.m., 1:00 & 2:00 p.m. MOBBI Classes 4:00 p.m. Property Mtg. Dan & Sandy Gill	12 9:30 a.m. MOBBI Class 11:30 a.m. Min. Assoc. Mtg. 4:00 p.m. Council Mtg.	13 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group 2:00 p.m. MOBBI 3:00 p.m. MOBBI	14 11:00 a.m. Dining Room: Periwinkle Garden Club Poinsettia Orders Due	15 10:00 a.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Stuart Scripps
16 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship & Christmas Pageant Missi & Randy Gilbert	17 6:00 p.m. Bal-A-Visx	18 9:30 a.m., 1:00 & 2:00 p.m. MOBBI Classes David & Melissa Koenig Clark & Sara Robinson	19 9:30 a.m. MOBBI Class 6:00 p.m. Caroling Party Joanne Brown Liv Buzzell Carol & Doug Ehle Judson Rath	20 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group 2:00 p.m. MOBBI 3:00 p.m. MOBBI Rosemary Abbett Evie Pomerleau	21	22 Doug Ehle
23 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School Joel Buzzell	24 6:45 p.m. Open Communion 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship Service	25 Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas! Joe Hubbard	26 9:30 a.m. MOBBI Class 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal Barb Ikens	27 9:30 a.m. Yoga Group 2:00 p.m. MOBBI 3:00 p.m. MOBBI	28	29 2:00 p.m. Free Kids Movie at the Garden: Peter Rabbit Ryan Ruddy John Walthorn
30 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School Nathan MacKenzie	31 6:00 p.m. Bal-A-Visx Michael Webb Billie Beyette & Ron Wardwell		7			

Pastor Dinah Time Off – Jan. 8

Steepleviews

First Congregational Church
 431 Forest Avenue
 Frankfort, MI 49635



<i>Table of Contents</i>		<i>Date</i>	<i>Greeters/Ushers Head Usher: Mary Reed</i>	<i>Sunday School Teacher</i>
Anniversaries	1, 7			
Announcements	1, 3, 4, 5, 6	2	Lori Dougherty, Jeanne & Tom Hafer, Donna Phillips	Naomi Kolehmainen
Birthdays	1, 7	9	Jim & Robin MacKenzie Dawn & Serenity Schulz	Becky Addis
Calendar	7			
Greeters	8	16	Denis Crosby, Bill Hirschfeld, Larry Neuhardt, Chris Porter	Cassie Henry
Prayer List	6	23	Molly & Scott Harrison Betty & Fred Milliron	Julie Hirschfeld
Congratulations & Thank You's	6			
Ushers	8	30	Mary Ann Harness, Leslie McElduff, Ann Osborn, Jill Smeltzer	Jim MacKenzie