

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Steepleviews

First Congregational Church of Frankfort
431 Forest Ave
Frankfort MI 49635

Website: www.fccfrankfort.org
Rev. Dinah Haag: pastor431@gmail.com
Church Office: secretary431@gmail.com

- 02 Tom Hafer
Kendra Lewis
- 03 Jim Buzzell
Kathy Crosby
Daniel Jewell
- 04 Jane Schulz
- 05 Denis Crosby
- 09 Maddie Charbonneau
Becky Hubbard
- 10 Peggy Jackson
Marv Prepejchal
- 12 Karen Williams
- 13 Grace Henry
Peyton Schindler
- 15 Stuart Scripps
- 16 Missi & Randy Gilbert
- 18 David & Melissa Koenig
Vivian Reed
- 19 Joanne Brown
Max Buzzell
Judson Rath
- 20 Rosemary Abbett
Genevieve Pomerleau
- 23 Joel Buzzell
- 25 Joe Hubbard
Branden Valentine
- 29 Ryan Ruddy
John Walthorn
- 30 Chris Anthony
Nathan MacKenzie
- 31 Gretchen Classens
Michael Webb
Billee Beyette & Ron
Wardwell

December Anniversaries & Birthdays

Coming Events

- Dec 3 Cookie Orders Due
Dec 6 Poinsettia Orders Due
Dec 10, Benzie Community Chorus
11 & 12
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight
Service

Friday, December 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



Join friends, family and neighbors for a
traditional time of worship to reflect the
greatest of all Christmas gifts.

Open Communion begins at 6:45 p.m.



A Christmas Prayer

(The following Christmas prayer was delivered by U.S. Senate Chaplain Peter Marshall on December 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 o 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 .

Poinsettia Order Form

6.5" red _____ pink _____ or white plant _____ @ \$12.00 each

In loving memory of _____

Or

In honor of _____

Given by _____

Please enter how many poinsettias and what color you would like
and return order form to the Church Office by
Monday, December 6, 2021. Thank you.



First
Congregational
Church of
Frankfort

Heavenly Holiday Cookie Sale
Time to order your Holiday treats!

Time to order your Holiday treats!

Containers will be filled with 2 dozen cookies or bars for a freewill offering.
Gluten free available on request.
Orders must be placed by December 1 by calling 231-352-7909.
Orders may be picked up at the church
Saturday, December 4 - 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The Benzie County
Community Chorus
Wishes You and Yours

Good Tidings
OF COMFORT
AND JOY
at our
2021 Holiday Concerts

Friday, December 10 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 11 3:00 p.m.
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
8190 Lincoln Rd., Beulah

Sunday, December 12 7:00 p.m.
Frankfort United Methodist Church
537 Crystal Ave., Frankfort

\$10 Tickets available at the door.
Masks required.



First Congregational Church of Frankfort

Council Minutes

FCCF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 10, 2021

The Minutes from the October 14, 2021 meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Rob Burch

Offerings for October:	\$ 8,467.09
Expenses for October:	1,388.11
YTD Carryover:	\$ 9,411.60

Committee Reports

Finance: Judy Welch – see Treasurer's Report and New Business

Investment: Chris Porter – the total of all Baird Accounts, as of October 31, is \$881,010.52.

Missions: Hugh Hessler – following the October 29 meeting, there were two changes made: reducing the donation to Community Spirit Meals from \$100 to \$50/month and adding \$50 a month to Habitat for Humanity. There was also discussion on contributing to the Frankfort/Elberta Student Pantry.

Nominating: Myra Elias – see New Business

Outreach: Dinah Haag for Kelly Ottinger – 1) Dinah thanked the Council for granting her Sabbatical time. 2) The Cookie Sale will be held on December 4, with help needed for putting up posters and obtaining containers/boxes.

Personnel: Myra Elias – 1) Pastor Dinah's Sabbatical begins on December 27, 2021 with her return date being March 27, 2022. 2) Katherine, our Church Secretary had a successful job review with the Committee. 3) There will be discussion and a decision made for granting Rosemary, our organist, an added week of vacation.

Property: Myra Elias -1) Completed jobs include; the Sanctuary storm windows are now in place, the live streaming issue has been fixed, the Parsonage porch is painted, the Church carpets have been cleaned, and the bushes were trimmed. 2) During Pastor Dinah's Sabbatical, a number of interior repairs and replacements need to be completed at the Parsonage under direction of the Property Committee (see motion under New Business).

Worship: Ann Osborn – 1) There was a review of the number of people reached via Facebook and Constant Contact since the October meeting. 2) The choir has started up again. 3) All Saints Sunday was November 7, with 20 names remembered for the Necrology and 13 for the Cradle Roll. 4) In place of the lighting of Advent candles this year, members will be asked to bring up a piece or pieces to be placed in the Nativity near the altar at the beginning of the services during Advent. 5) Poinsettias will again be ordered and 6) Upcoming events include: Sharing our Thanksgiving service with video contributions on November 21, Sanctuary decorating on November 23; the next Communion Sunday on December 5, a virtual Christmas pageant featuring our children on December 19, and the Christmas Eve Service on December 24.

Pastor's Report: Dinah Haag – report submitted

New Business 1) Nominations for the 2022 Council: Jeanne Hafer and Betty Webb have been asked to replace vacant seats and Officers returning include Rob Burch, Treasurer, Ann Osborn, Clerk, and Judy Welch, Financial Secretary. 2) 2022 Budget – following discussion, questions and review, Rob Burch made the motion that Council approve the 2022 Budget which included the proposal that we not spend over \$25,000.00 from the Unrestricted Funds for the Parsonage repairs. Following further discussion, this motion was withdrawn. Rob made a second motion (following decisions on the Parsonage repairs and the proposed costs involved) that Council approve the 2022 Budget, with the exception of the Unmanaged Funds of \$100,000.00; Bill Hirschfeld seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed.

3) Parsonage repairs/replacements: After discussion of costs and improvements needed, the motion was made by Bill Hirschfeld that the Property Committee get the estimates/quotes for electrical work and new carpeting by December's Council meeting with the amendment that a washer/dryer be purchased as soon as possible; Linda Schweyer seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

4) Sunday School classroom usage: the Benzie Community Chorus has requested that one of our Sunday School rooms be used for music storage and office space. Council approved this, with the stipulation that a Letter of Agreement be drawn up between the Church and the Chorus.

No Reports: Memorials, Constitution & By-Laws, Religious Education, Women's Fellowship & Unfinished Business.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully, Ann Osborn, Church Council Clerk

Thank You

- Volunteers who helped BACN get ready for colder weather: Scott Harrison, Glen Tracy and Chris Bouda who carefully applied weatherization film to all of our windows. They gave up several hours on Friday and Saturday (when the weather was nice and they could have been enjoying other activities!). Thank you gentlemen, for helping them prepare.
- Ann Osborn, Mary Osborn and Judy Welch for decorating the sanctuary for the holiday season.

December is First Congregational Church's Choir Appreciation Month!



We want to take this month to be mindful of our Choir and let them know how very much they are appreciated, enjoyed and loved.

Congratulations

- Jason Kolehmainen and his crew at the A&W Curbside/Delivery/Pickup Family Friendly, Kid Friendly and Children's Menu in the Traverse City Record Eagle's "Simply the Best" contest.
- Tucker Hubbard was named Conference Offensive MVP and All-Region Team in football
- Tegan Chicky Academic Letter Inductee at Benzie Central

- So what else is there to do when the opposition doesn't have enough players for a team? You volunteer to play for them...great job Laurel Rath



- Cooper Rath-Academic AllState Soccer award

- Liam Condon on receiving the class VIP for the week. (And a proud Mama moment). His class votes on this special person every



Friday for the next week. The following qualities are what the class is looking for: Kind, respectful, displays Panther Pride, tries their hardest, asks for help if they need it and is a friend to all.

Please Remember in Prayer

Prayer Concerns

Liz Acklin
Becky Addis
Cherie Boswell
Greg Cobb
Karen Collins
Denis Crosby
Deb Derr
Theresa Duffy
Dennis Flynn
Mary Goethals
Michael Grajcar
Melissa Grant
Dr. Hall
David Hendrick
Pat Hessler
Dale Holmgren
Ryan Kazanowski
Joyce Kirschner
Walter Kidd
Joyce Kirschner
Susan Lavender
Bob Levis
Alex Lindsey
Travis Lovegrove
Adam Mills
Linda Napper
Susie Nielsen
Dave Nowak
Ron Phillips
Rath Family
Becky Reed Kelly
Bonnie Reed Heaney
Louise Reed
Pete Reed
Tina Reed
Dawn Schulz

Linda Schweyer
Jim & Marilyn Sheets
Robin Somero
Kathy Stall
Jim Symington
Dori Turner
Lucas Welch
John & Peter Young

Families of

Karen Collins
Redding Knap
Dan Rayner
Charles Rushlow
Don Smith

Senior Living

Cadillac
Don Bonderenko
The Homesteader
Bea Stone
The Maples
Karen Collins
Dori Turner
Gladys Wilson
Maple Valley
Steve Elrick
Orchard House
Pat Hessler
Joan Miller
Susie Vigland

Military

Mike Kinney
Tyler Kinney
Ryan Ruddy

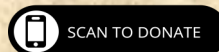
ATTENTION!

Our By-Laws indicate that all **year-end reports** are due December 26th. Because that is such a busy time to ask for those reports, we are asking that they be in the church office as soon as possible. Thank you so very much for all your hard work!



If you wish to make a year-end gift to the church, it would be helpful if it were postmarked by December 26th. All gifts are truly appreciated and treated with the respect with which they are given.

Donations can be given by check, the donation button on the church website and by the QRcode



In Memory of Pat Kinske...

The following note was mailed to the church from Sarah Webb.....

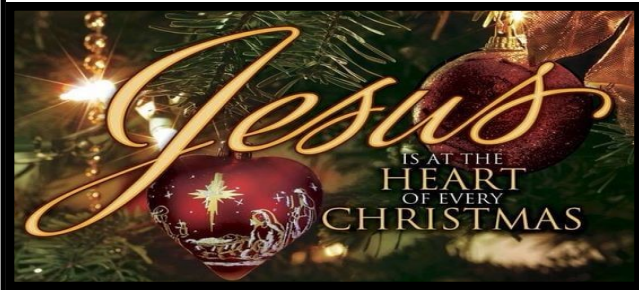
Dear Church, I am sorry for the loss of your church member. I am sure you are much sad by her loss. I once knew her. I am sure she will be much missed by everyone who knew her. But, now she is in heaven which is a much better place.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:45 a.m. MOBBI 4:00 p.m. Worship Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	2 9:15 a. .m. MOBBI 4:00 p.m. Property Mtg. Tom Hafer Kendra Lewis	3 10:00 a.m. Yoga Jim Buzzell Kathy Crosby Daniel Jewell	4 Jane Schultz
		5 9:00 a.m. Choir Reh. 10:30 a.m. Worship Communion Sunday Denis Crosby	6 4:30 p.m. MOBBI Benzie Senior Resources Gift Pick Up	7 9:15 a.m. MOBBI 4:00 p.m. Outreach Meeting Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8 9:45 a.m. MOBBI 3:00 p.m. PEO Mtg. 4:00 p.m.. Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	9 9:15 a. .m. MOBBI Maddie Charbonneau Rebecca Hubbard
12 9:00 a.m. Choir Reh. 10:30 a.m. Worship Karen Williams	13 4:30 p.m. MOBBI Grace Henry Peyton Schindler	14 9:15 a.m. MOBBI	15 9:45 a.m. MOBBI 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal Stuart Scripps	16 9:15 a. .m. MOBBI Missi & Randy Gilbert	17 10:00 a.m. Yoga 6:45 p.m. Open Communion 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Service	18 Vivian Reed David & Melissa Koenig Clark & Sara Robinson
19 9:00 a.m. Choir Reh. 10:30 a.m. Worship Christmas Program Joanne Brown Max Buzzell Judson Rath	20 4:30 p.m. MOBBI Rosemary Abbett Genevieve Pomerleau	21 9:15 a.m. MOBBI Winter Solstice	22 9:45 a.m. MOBBI 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal Blake Buzzell	23 9:15 a.m. MOBBI Joel Buzzell	24 10:00 a.m. Yoga 6:45 p.m. Open Communion 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Service	25  Joe Hubbard Branden Valentine
26 9:00 a.m. Choir Reh. 10:30 a.m. Worship Boxing Day	27 9:30 a.m. MOBBI 	28 9:30 a.m. MOBBI	29 9:45 a.m. MOBBI 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal Ryan Ruddy John Walthorn	30 9:15 a.m. MOBBI Chris Anthony Nathan MacKenzie	31 10:00 a.m. Yoga New Year's Eve Day Gretchen Classens Michael Webb Billee Beyetter & Ron Wardwell	

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 Frankfort, MI 49635



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Announcements	1,2, 3, 5, 6, 7	5	Becky Addis	Molly & Scott Harrison Sharon & Michael Grajcar
Birthdays	1, 7			Donna Phillips, Al Bryant Jim Buzzell, Julie Morris
Calendar	7	12	Serenity Schulz	
Greeters	8			Robin & Jim MacKenzie Kris & Dennis Richards
Prayer List	5	19	Jim MacKenzie	
Congratulations	4			Linda & David Schweyer Alma House, Marti Mollema
Thank You's	4	26	Robin MacKenzie	