

A JOYFUL NOISE!

June 2012

Would you like to make history? The first ever CROP Walk in Benzie County will be on June 10th, just after church. Why is this on the front page of the Joyful Noise? Why isn't this a regular article further back? Because we want to be part of a historical venture and because we want to do something active in addition to sending checks and prayers toward ministerial projects.

CROP Walks are part of the international organization Church World Service that our church and denomination supports for hunger relief as well as supplying the needy with blankets and tools for improving lives. CROP walks raise awareness of worldwide hunger and they raise funds to alleviate hunger. So why a walk? One theme is "We walk because they walk." Millions of people in third world countries walk miles every day for basic resources like water and food. And so when we walk on June 10th, we do so in solidarity with our sisters and brothers, to remember and honor their lives, and then to give financial support.

One great aspect about CROP walks is that 25% of all funds raised stays locally and it has been decided that Benzie Area Christian Neighbors will be the recipient this year. So if you choose to walk or support this adventure, we can celebrate knowing BACN will benefit and we can do more to reduce hunger here in Benzie County.

So far, six walkers have signed up and many children will be joining us as well. There are two routes: one is one mile and the other is 3.5 miles. You may choose which you would like to complete. We will meet after church on the 10th and make our way down to the Elberta United Methodist Church by 1pm for registration. See me before if you would like to walk. If you are unable to walk with us but would like to contribute, please make checks out to

CWS / CROP and mail to the church with: Attn Pastor Dan so I may get it to the appropriate person.

Benzie County is the only one in Northern Michigan not to have an annual CROP Walk. This will no longer be the case in mid June. Come help us make history. Come walk because they walk. Come help alleviate hunger around the world and around our county. Come and donate. As we recognize our 152nd year of local ministry on Anniversary Sunday, the last Sunday in June, let's make June, 2012 a wonderful time to remember as we reach out in Christian love to all our neighbors.

Pastor Dan

Office Hours

The pastor will be at the office Monday through Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m. He will be available from 10:00 to 12:00 on Monday and Tuesday if you would like to visit and other times by appointment. He will be doing visitations and going to meetings when he is not in the office. In an emergency, he can always be reached on his cell phone, 231-930-7067.

We will soon have a suggestion box in fellowship hall.
Please let us know your concerns and we will try to address them.

Women's Fellowship News

The Junk Sale is coming up June 29-30. Anyone who would like to help can contact Joan Cooper.

Our fellowship hall is really taking shape with new serving tables and chairs. We thank everyone who has helped make this possible.

Over the summer we will be making a new booklet for all the women of the church (members and friends) with e-mails and cell phones. This will make it easier to contact everyone when events come up that aren't on the church calendar. If you could give Nancy in the office that information, it would be very helpful.

Sarah Circle and Circle IV are joining together as one circle. The first meeting of the combined circle will be this fall - September 19 at 11:00 at the church

Our next Women's' Fellowship meeting will be October 3 at 1:00.

The Women's Fellowship Slate of Officers for 2011-2012 is:

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Chair | Barbara Brian | Wider Mission | Cath Kelder |
| Vice President | Rosemary Miller | Social Concerns | Chris Gehring |
| Secretary | Chris Jones | Reception/Coffer | Carol Dye |
| Treasurer | Ruth Catton | | |

CLASSIC JUNK SALE



The CLASSIC JUNK SALE is coming up soon. Dates are Friday, June 29th from 8 am to 3 pm and Saturday June 30th from 9 am to 1 pm.

We invite you to donate treasures that you are no longer using. Antiques and collectibles were very popular items last year. Other great items include kitchen items, bedding, towels, tools, gently used household items, toys, landscaping stuff – almost anything you can think of. However – no clothing or electronic items such as old computers, printers etc.

Please put your donated items in the Sunday School room right next to the south parking lot. Then plan to attend this sale – EVERYONE LIKES TO FIND A BARGAIN OR TWO.

Women's Fellowship uses funds from this sale to support their programs such as the recent updating of our kitchen. This past year we have donated over \$2,500 to charitable organizations in our community and to Wider Missions.

Greetings from the Deacons

The weather is becoming continually warmer as we enter into the summer. Our snow birds are returning and our children and youth are finishing school. Ironically we are entering Ordinary Time. The time between Pentecost and the beginning of Advent. As we enter summer, let us remember to slow down and enjoy what we have and the beauty that surrounds us.

During our May meeting there were two topics that were of primary focus. One being those that are unable to leave their homes or leave their home less regularly than they used to. We spoke about the number of people that fall into this category and the difficulty that one person would have in bringing the summer sunshine to all these people.

We also spoke about how to be aware of those “regular” church members and how to keep track of them if we don’t see them in church. We care about our fellow disciples and want to know what is going on in their lives.

As Deacons, we recognize that we have a winding road ahead of us and on that road we will find activities to do that bond us together as a family. We are commissioned to take care of spirits, not only in worship but in the community. With this being said, mark your calendars for June 25 and our annual Beach Bums Game. We will meet at the church for a cookout and then travel to the game for fun and fellowship.

Remember that we are the body of Christ and wherever we go, we are representatives of this and our church family.

Beach Bums Game

Come join us for a tailgate party and a Traverse City Beach Bums game! The price is FREE! The church has purchased a listing on the “Faith Page” in the game program and in return has received 100 free tickets vouchers

On Monday, June 25th, we will meet at the church at 5:00 p.m. for a tailgate party then car pool to the game. There will be a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board. If you can’t join us for the tailgate party and just want to join us at the game, please indicate that on the sign up sheet, so we will know how many hot dogs to grill.

Everyone is invited. This is a great opportunity to invite your neighbor or friend to come and meet us and enjoy an evening of fun together.



Board of Trustees Report

Over the past year, the Board of Trustees has been discussing the needs of our church building and grounds. Our church was built back in the 1960’s - over 50 years ago! The structure is showing its age. We are putting together a list of needed upgrades and repairs and getting quotes for work that needs to be done. In June we will be presenting this list to the congregation along with a couple of different plans for getting this work done. We welcome any ideas that you may have regarding our building and grounds.

Betsie River Clean-up

On Saturday, June 9, there will be a pancake breakfast from 8:30-9:30 here at the church.

After breakfast, the clean-up crews will go out to their assigned river section via shuttle vehicles and float down their section while picking up trash along the way.

For more information, contact Mike Jones at 882-4391.

What's New in the Library

Growing Up Amish... This memoir offers a nuanced account of Amish life. Wagler was born in a small Old Order Amish community. At seventeen, frustrated by the rules and restrictions, he got up at 2:00 a.m., packed a duffle bag, left a note under his pillow, and left. Over the next five years he would leave and return to his home numerous times, torn between his Amish family and the freedom and possibilities of the "English" world. The book is worthwhile for its Amish insights and for its exploration of one man's emotional turmoil, regret, and shame.

Comfort from Beyond: Real-Life Experiences of Hope in the Face of Loss... Here we find real stories from individuals who lost loved ones and were able to receive comfort and encouragement from the loved ones who had passed on. Our faith tells us that ultimately we will be reunited with those we love, but a little reassurance never hurts. An anonymous donation.

Who's Who in the Bible... A great start to researching questions of who, what, when and where of about five hundred of the more important names in the Bible. Each entry includes pronunciation, original name and a literal meaning, if there is one. Individuals are in alphabetical order by Anglicized spelling. An appendix called "Everyone in the Bible" lists every name found in the Bible along with a brief description and a biblical reference. Maps show the Middle East in biblical times, some trace journeys through the area. Lavishly illustrated and clearly written, this alphabetical dictionary/encyclopedia is a good basic reference source. An anonymous donation.

The Lorax... Maybe you've seen the movie, now it's time to read the book. The whimsical rhymes, delightful original creatures and weird illustrations we've come to expect in a Dr. Seuss book are here plus something more . . . a powerful message that Seuss implores both adults and children to heed. This ecological warning rings true today as much as it did when the book was published in 1971. The book would be a good introduction to a discussion on ecology and God's message to man that he is to "tend and care for" the earth.

Christian Education News

Busy year and happy kids. Our theme seems to be inter-generational participation. Cinco de Mayo was a big hit on May 6th with a Spanish lesson presented during coffee hour by Carolina Jones and a piñata for the children.

During the Sunday Service on June 3rd, our 2012 graduates will be honored. Youth Sunday is June 10th. Our Sunday school students and youth will be presenting the worship service. After the service, many of our students will be participating in the Crop Walk in Elberta. Please help us by sponsoring one of the walkers - or join in and walk with us.

Marley Demers is heading the committee to make a float for our church to enter in the parades in both Beulah and Frankfort on the Fourth of July. There will be sign-up sheets at the church. We invite anyone who is interested to ride (or walk) in the parade with us.

Also in the planning stages - Family Camping. Possibly at Vacation Trailer Park right in Benzonia. That way, even people who have to work can join us in the evenings.

The Drake School event has been postponed to August because the school is undergoing some renovation. This also will be an event that everyone can participate in. Kay Bos will be doing an "Old Fashioned" Sunday School lesson with a picnic to follow.

UCC Sister Church of the Month

As part of our continuing efforts to work together as community of faith, in worship we pray for UCC churches in our United Northern Association. You are invited in June to pray for the ongoing mission and ministries of the First Congregational UCC, Wolverine. They have a new pastor who started in January.

National Youth Event

Every four years, youth ages 13-18 gather together for worship, workshops, mission projects, and fellowship. Four years ago, we sent youth from our church who witnessed 3,000 youth from all across the nation and came back energized about the future. The Christian Education Board is working toward registering youth for this trip July 10-13 to be held at Purdue, Indiana. For youth ages 15 and up, this is a once in a life-time opportunity. Please speak with Pastor Dan, Carol Dye, or Katrina Smith for more information.

Flowers

There is a sign-up sheet outside the church office for altar flowers for 2012. If you are interested in supplying flowers, please sign up for a certain date (or if you are unable to be in worship call the church office to make arrangements). You may then bring in your own flowers or donate \$25 to the church to make the arrangements with a local florist. If you would like the bulletin to reflect your donation, please let the church office know who the flowers honor or memorialize as well as identifying yourself as the donor.

Reminder

If you, a loved one, or a church member you know is in the hospital, please let the church office know so that Pastor Dan may visit. Due to privacy laws, hospitals no longer contact the churches to let them know church members are hospitalized. The church wants to know so that we can support you during this time of need.

Memorial Garden

On the north side of our church property is a beautiful memorial garden for members and friends of the church who would like their cremated ashes interred on our sacred grounds. For \$400, you may reserve a one-square foot plot that covers future opening and closing as well as a memorial plaque to be placed on the stone located along the walkway. Please speak with Pastor Dan for more information. Donations for perpetual care are also welcomed.

GoodSearch.com

Remember that if you use the Internet, you can earn money for the church using www.goodsearch.com. One penny per search, or more for internet shopping, is donated directly from the website to our church. Designate us by entering our church name as the charity of your choice.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to the following members of the church family!

| | |
|----|------------------|
| 1 | Brady Cole |
| 5 | Doug Joy, Sr. |
| 8 | Harold Case |
| 9 | Alan Appelhof |
| 10 | Virginia Kilburn |
| 11 | Barbara Nason |
| 13 | Leonard Case |
| 14 | Buck Hall |
| 18 | Roger Vance |
| 21 | Mitchell Webb |
| 21 | Kathy Neveu |
| 25 | Ethan Webb |
| 26 | Penelope Olson |
| 27 | Dorothy Lyons |
| 29 | Victoria Joy |

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 2 | Doc and Mary Ellen Wagner |
| 10 | Leonard and Brenda Case |
| 14 | Mark and Mary Thompson |
| 17 | Bob and Mickey Austin |
| 22 | Roger and Phoebe Vance |

**Congratulations**

to Benzie Central graduates,

Hunter Brian

the son of Clinton Brian and Laura Brian, plans to study Precision Machining at Northwestern Michigan College

Gavin Sauer

the son of Lisa Sauer, plans to study Business at Central Michigan University.

Erin Thompson

the daughter of Glenn Thompson and Michelle Thompson, plans to study Elementary Education at Michigan State University.

**A BIG THANK YOU
TO OUR JUNE VOLUNTEERS -****COFFEE HOUR**

| | |
|---------|----------------------------|
| June 3 | Deacons |
| June 10 | Chris Stone |
| June 17 | Chris Gehring |
| June 24 | Sarah Circle and Circle IV |

NURSERY

| | |
|---------|---------------|
| June 3 | Linda Jenema |
| June 10 | Chris Gehring |
| June 17 | Katrina Smith |
| June 24 | Anne Young |

GREETERS

| | |
|---------|---------------------------|
| June 3 | Geri Thornell |
| June 10 | Mary Hopkins |
| June 17 | Hal Bruning |
| June 24 | Joyce Barnes and Bob Ward |

HEAD USHER

Alan Appelhof

Church Family Update

Leonard and Brenda Case will be celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary on June 10. They were married in our church by the Rev. Murray Sleeper on June 10, 1972.

You are invited to remember in your prayers some of our members who are home-bound, in assisted-living, or are facing health concerns: Marylou Patee, June Trost, Norm Stewart, John Robson, Marjorie Call, Buck and Dorothy Hall, Liz Ehman, Barb Nason, Mona McElderry, Bruce Jenema, Helen Pickard, Jo Danford, and Betty Henry.

In May, Ruth Masters passed from this life to the next. Ruth was a member of our church for forty years. Please remember her family in your prayers.

THANK YOU to Susan Lutes, Mickey Austin, and Jean Edwards for all their work folding and labeling and stamping the May issue of The Joyful Noise.

THANKS to everyone who bought cookies at the Cookie Walk of came to the Mother Daughter Banquet. Circle I was able to send \$200 to Benzie Home Health Care and \$200 to the Women's Transition House in Beulah.

JUNE 2012

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SAT |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | | 1 12 Noon LOWV | 2 |
| 3 GRADUATION 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship | 4 10 Central Wellnss - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 7:00 AA - Barn | 5 10:00 Yoga-Barn 6:30 - Kiwanis 7:00 WAA - Barn | 6 12 Noon - AA 2:00 MS Support - Barn | 7 10 Central Wellness - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 MRT 5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice | 8 12 Noon LOWV | 9 Betsie River Clean-up |
| 10 YOUTH SUNDAY 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship 1:30 Crop Walk Elberta United Methodist | 11 10 Central Wellnss - Barn 11:00 Commodities Distribution 12-5 Bridge Club 7:00 AA - Barn | 12 10:00 Yoga -Barn 7:00 Council 7:00 WAA - Barn | 13 12 Noon - AA 2:30 Knitting - Barn 4:30 Deacons | 14 10 Central Wellness - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 MRT 5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice | 15 12 Noon- LOWV | 16 |
| 17 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship | 18 10 Central Wellnss - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Trustees 7:00 AA - Barn | 19 10:00 Yoga -Barn 6:30 Christian Ed 6:30 Kiwanis 7:00 WAA - Barn | 20 12 Noon - AA 2:30 Knitting - Barn | 21 10 Central Wellness - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 MRT 5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice | 22 12 Noon LOWV | 23 |
| 24 ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship | 25 10 Central Wellnss - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Beach Bums Game 7:00 AA - Barn | 26 10:00 Yoga -Barn 6:30 Plant It Wild Meeting 7 WAA - Barn | 27 12 Noon - AA 2:30 Knitting - Barn | 28 10 Central Wellness - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 MRT 5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice | 29 CLASSIC JUNQUE SALE | 30 CLASSIC JUNQUE SALE |

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC BENZONIA, MICHIGAN

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Chris Stone Treasurer
Mary Rodriguez.. Financial Secretary
James Sheets..... Church Moderator
Rosemary Miller Choir Director
Jean Edwards..... Newsletter Editor
Carolina Jones & Katrina Smith..... Christian Ed Coordinators
Hope Kochis Custodian
Nancy Eggleston Secretary

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