

# A JOYFUL NOISE!

October 2013

Happy Anniversary! On the first Sunday of October, 2008, we began our new journey together as I led worship for the first time here as your newly called pastor. On the one hand, it doesn't seem possible that five years have come and gone. On the other hand, much has changed since then in my personal life and in the life of our church. Many friends and long-time members have passed from this life to the next and their loss is still felt. And many new friends have joined the life of our church, bringing their gifts and loves, moving us in new directions.

There have been some changes in worship and staff. We have made and are making improvements around the building and grounds with a capital campaign in the works. These are all transitions that affect the life of our membership, and have merit.

So where do we see ourselves as a church in Benzonia five years from now, in 2018? Will our ministry look and feel the exact same? If not, how will it be different? My hope is that we will have a thriving outreach ministry that complements our friendly congregation, by addressing any number of the needs in our County. I hope that our church will continue to reconnect with our roots of providing a solid education to anyone who wants one, by offering tutoring or after-school support. Maybe we will find a way to address the outbreak of drug use in our neighborhoods. What ideas do you have for community outreach, for that is where the future church resides and for us as a church to not only grow in number but be relevant in our neighborhood, we will need to collectively not only worship together but be out in the community serving together. Here's to the next five!

Pastor Dan Furman

## **NEIGHBORS IN NEED Sunday, October 6**

On Sunday, October 6, we will be taking up a special offering for Neighbors in Need (NIN). This is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministries. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. With your support, Neighbors in Need is imagining a World Without Poverty.

## **SECOND ANNUAL CROP WALK**

One of the lesser observed needs in our nation is that of hunger. Certainly world-wide hunger is a daily struggle. So to both raise awareness and financial support, our church will again be participating in the Crop Hunger Walk scheduled for **Sunday, October 6**. Those who would like to walk may join us at the Elberta United Methodist church at 1pm. Those who would like to offer support may do so for the walkers on Sunday mornings. Checks may be made out to Crop Hunger Walk (with Benzie County) in the memo section. 25% of all money raised is given directly to BACN. We walk, because they walk for food.

## ***Annual Special Olympics Fajita Dinner Fundraiser***

Dear Congregation,

Again this year, we are having our 5th annual Fajita dinner to support our Special Olympics program here in Benzie County.

Last year was a memorable event, the lines were long, the food was great-----and then we ran out of food, so this year we have doubled our chicken and beef.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support. This church has great support system where we help each other. A big thanks to all the volunteers who have helped in the past and for the ones that will help us this year.

Our Fajita dinner will be held here at the church on Friday Oct, 11th 2013 from 5:30pm to 7:30 pm. Come and join us, we will be preparing a great dinner for you.

God Bless  
Sincerely  
Sonny Rodriguez



### **SAVE THIS DATE:**

**SUNDAY THE 27<sup>TH</sup> OF OCTOBER, 2013**



**START PLANNING YOUR COSTUME NOW!**

**TRICK FOR A TREAT FOR UNICEF BY OUR YOUTH**

**GAMES FOR ALL AGES**

**COSTUMES**

**HAY RIDE?**

**SEE YOU THERE**

**YOUR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

### ***Annual Spaghetti Dinner for Habitat***

The annual spaghetti dinner will again be held at the Frankfort United Methodist Church on October 5, 2013 from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. The meal includes spaghetti with a choice of meat or vegetarian sauce, salad, garlic bread, and dessert. Drinks include the choice of coffee, tea, water or lemonade. Carry-out service will be available.

Proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity of Benzie County.



**Habitat**  
for Humanity®  
of Benzie County

### ***What's New in the Library***

***The Preacher's Daughter***...the first in a new series by Beverly Lewis, one of Christian fiction's most beloved authors of the gentle read. Annie Zook, the preacher's oldest daughter, is a budding artist but her conservative Amish community forbids its members to draw or paint pictures. At age 20 Annie is still deciding whether to join the community and give up her art or pursue her art and give up her family. Culinary details, glimpses into the workings of Amish life, and strong character development make for a good read.

***Wonderfully Made***...Hayley Hippo wants to be in a talent show. She just doesn't have any idea what her talent is. She watches her friends show their different talents and tries unsuccessfully to copy them, hilarious scenes unfold. She finally realizes she had a talent all along. A great book for a child dealing with issues of fitting in or being different. Suggested for ages 4—8

***Moses***...Through the flowing, descriptive narrative, the author retells the story of Moses. From his birth and trip in a boat of bulrushes to his bringing of the Ten Commandments down from Mount Sinai, this biblical figure is made memorable. Watercolor paintings illustrate the action on each page but are rather dull. Recommended for all ages.

### ***Women's Fellowship News***

Circle 1 will be hosting the Women's Fellowship meeting on Wednesday, October 2, at 1:00 p.m. All the women of the church and their guests are welcome. The Executive Board will meet at noon before the general meeting.

Circle I will meet at the church on Wednesday, October 9, at 1:00 p.m. Due to a conflict, it is a week early. Sarah Circle IV will meet at the church on Wednesday, October 16, at 11:00 a.m.

### **World Communion Day**

World Communion Day is October 6. The Deacons are trying to do their part in "going green" by purchasing coffee cups that can be recycled from a company that helps small growers. Contributions are welcome, if anyone is interested in helping to defray the added cost.

### **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 \$450 you may reserve a one-square-foot plot. The price 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.

### **Living With Loss**

All of us carry and process the burden of grief from time to time in life. This group is now meeting monthly on the last Sunday of the month. If you or someone you know could benefit from being with others on this journey, please join us on the last Sunday of the month in the Library after worship.

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 John Marshall
- 5 Phyllis Crowell
- 6 Mona McElderry
- 8 Rob Rafferty
- 8 Harriet Stone
- 11 Andy Case
- 15 John Abbett
- 18 Roy Polhamus
- 19 R.J. Rafferty
- 21 Doug Rodriguez
- 23 Michelle Herban
- 25 Barbara Riegler
- 29 Nicole Olney

## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Rob and Maria Wolowiec
- 11 Lisa and Glen Sauer
- 14 Pete and Sally Moss

## Flowers



There is a sign-up sheet outside the church office for altar flowers. If you are interested in supplying flowers, sign up for a certain date (if you are unable to be in worship call the church office so that arrangements can be made). 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.

## UCC Sister Church of the Month

As part of our continuing efforts to work together as a community of faith, in worship we pray for UCC churches in our United Northern Association. You are invited in October to pray for the ongoing mission and ministries of **First Congregational, UCC in Atlanta**.

*Thank You* to Mickey Austin, Jean Bowers, and Jean Edwards for all their work folding, labeling, and stamping the September issue of A Joyful Noise.

## Church Family Update

You are invited to remember in your prayers some of our members who are home-bound, in assisted-living, or are facing health concerns. This month please remember:

**Homesteader:** Rosemary Miller, and Pink Rearick

**Paul Oliver Long Term Care:** June Trost and Norm Stewart

**The Pines:** Betty Heckman

**Traverse City:** Helen Pickard and Pat Forrester

**Home-bound or facing health concerns:** Marjorie Call, Buck Hall, Mona McElderry, Mary Hopkins, Susan Lutes, Brenda Case, Ruth Blacklock, Gordon Nordbeck, and Laura Brian.

We share our sympathy as Mary Lou Haase Patee passed from this life to the next. And we celebrate the marriage of Victoria Joy and Justin Ebert. Our prayers are with these families.

*We would like to thank Pastor Dan for his comforting words, compassion and the beautiful service; The Women's Fellowship for the lovely luncheon they provided for our family and friends; and the congregation for their many prayers, cards and words of support during Bruce's illness.*

*We are very grateful.*

*The Bruce Jenema Family*

*On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers at BACN, we would like to thank the members of the First Congregational Church for their support. With your support, we were able to achieve and surpass our goal in our Summer Challenge Fund Drive. Thank you again.*

*Jerry Slater  
Board President*

# OCTOBER 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
		<p>1</p> <p>10:00 Yoga-Barn</p> <p>6:30 - Kiwanis 7:00 WAA - Barn</p>	<p>2</p> <p>12 Noon - AA</p> <p>2:00 MS Support Barn</p> <p>6:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10 Central Wellness Exercise - Barn</p> <p>5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice</p>	<p>4</p> <p>12 N - LOWV Library</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship</p> <p>1:00 Crop Walk in Elberta</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00 Central Wellness - Barn 12:00 Crafts Class - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club</p> <p>7:00 AA - Barn</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 Yoga -Barn</p> <p>7:00 Council 7:00 WAA - Barn</p>	<p>10</p> <p>12 Noon - AA</p> <p>3:30 Deacons</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10 Centrl Wellness Exercise - Barn 10 CWS Committee</p> <p>5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice</p>	<p>11</p> <p>12 N - LOWV Library</p> <p>5-7 pm <b>Fajita Dinner Benefit</b></p>	<p>12</p> <p><b>Work Bee</b></p>
<p>13</p> <p>10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00 Central Wellness - Barn 11:00 Commodities 12:00 Crafts Class - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club</p> <p>7:00 AA - Barn</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 Yoga -Barn</p> <p>5:00 Music Committee 6:30 Kiwanis 7:00 WAA - Barn</p>	<p>16</p> <p>12 Noon - AA</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10 Centrl Wellness Exercise - Barn</p> <p>5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice</p>	<p>18</p> <p>12 N - LOWV Library</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00 Central Wellness - Barn 12:00 Crafts Class - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club</p> <p>5:00 Trustees 7:00 AA - Barn</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00 Yoga -Barn</p> <p>7:00 WAA - Barn</p>	<p>23</p> <p>12 Noon - AA</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10 Centrl Wellness Exercise - Barn</p> <p>5:30 NA - Barn 6:30 Christian Ed 7:30 Choir Practice</p>	<p>25</p> <p>12 N - LOWV Library</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship 11:30 <b>Fall Fest</b></p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00 Central Wellness - Barn 12:00 Crafts Class - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club</p> <p>7:00 AA - Barn</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:00 Yoga -Barn</p> <p>7:00 WAA - Barn</p>	<p>30</p> <p>12 Noon - AA</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10 Centrl Wellness Exercise - Barn</p> <p>5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice</p>		

First Congregational Church, UCC  
901 Barber Street, P.O. Box 234.  
Benzonia, MI 49616  
Phone: (231) 882-4922

## ***A Joyful Noise! October 2013***

### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC BENZONIA, MICHIGAN

Daniel E. Furman .....	Minister
Chris Stone .....	Treasurer
Mary Rodriguez.. ..	Financial Secretary
James Sheets.....	Church Moderator
Jean Edwards.....	Newsletter Editor
Carolina Jones & Katrina Smith.....	Christian Ed Coordinators
Hope Kochis .....	Custodian
Nancy Eggleston .....	Secretary

Office phone: 231-882-4922

Office hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

<http://www.benzoniacongregational.org>

Office Email: [secretary@benzoniacongregational.org](mailto:secretary@benzoniacongregational.org)

Pastor Email: [pastordan@benzoniacongregational.org](mailto:pastordan@benzoniacongregational.org)