

A JOYFUL NOISE!

January 2014

A new year. A new direction. A new hope.

Change is rarely easy. Packing, moving, unpacking. Graduating, leaving, finding a new job. Getting married, finding a new home, moving, unpacking. Sometimes we don't know if we're coming or going and everything seems upside down. Change is rarely easy, and yet it happens to each of us, every minute of every day. Routines and agendas help us feel like things are staying the same, and yet those dark hairs keep turning gray one at a time.

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2014. This year the church will enter into a time of pastoral transition. Even now, God is working toward bringing an Interim Pastor to help the congregation face these changes, process emotions, take a closer look at identity, and prepare for future changes. May we be intentional in our prayers for the church in this time of transition.

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So what do you believe God has in store for the church in this new year? What is tugging at your heart for the direction you feel the church should be moving? What do you believe are the three things the church needs to accomplish in this new year? As the church enters its 154th year of ministry, what missions do you see engaging in this year? As you ponder these questions, and as you formulate them into prayers, be listening for God's response, and share your thoughts with each other as you move through the changes of a new year, a new direction, and a new hope.

Pastor Dan Furman



January Birthdays

Happy birthday to the following members of the church family!

- 6 Andrew Call
- 6 Bud Cleghorn
- 11 Esther Rodriguez
- 12 Tad Peacock
- 17 Judy Johnson
- 18 Jean Voight
- 19 Mark Weaver
- 21 Donovan Haase
- 25 Helen Dewey
- 26 Mary Rodriguez
- 29 Debra Rafferty
- 30 Linda Joy
- 31 Kelsey Neveu

January Anniversaries

Congratulations!

- 18 Harold and Marsha Case
- 30 Gerald and Joan Richardson

Remember in Your Prayers

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: Mary Hopkins

The Maples: Flo Wellman

The Pines: Betty Heckman

Traverse City: Helen Pickard and Pat Forrester

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

NEW BABY

A joyful welcome to the newest member of our church family. Liezl Hickey, daughter of Cathy and Aaron Hickey was born on November 6, 2013. Congratulations!



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 January to pray for the ongoing mission and ministries of First Congregational UCC, in Charlevoix.

THANK YOUs

Thank you to all of **our children and youth** for participating in this year's Christmas Pageant, Excellent job! The congregation seemed to enjoy the program.

FLOWERS

There is a new sign-up sheet outside the church office for altar flowers for 2014. 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.

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR JANUARY VOLUNTEERS -

COFFEE HOUR

- 1/5 Deacons
- 1/12 Chris Jones
- 1/19 Bev Brouwer
- 1/26 Annual Meeting Potluck

HEAD USHER

NURSERY

- Helen Dewey
- Agnes Slater
- Phyllis Crowell
- Kay Bos

John Milks

GREETERS

- Gary and Bev Brouwer
- Greeters Needed
- Greeters Needed
- Greeters Needed

News From the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees met on December 16. Our discussion focused on the need for better communication among members – and – moving forward in the New Year. It was suggested that we have quarterly Congregational Pot Luck meetings where members can bring up and discuss any of their concerns. If you like this idea – let us know.

This year's Regular Annual Meeting will be held on January 26 after church. We hope that everyone is looking forward to our meeting, a great pot luck supper and fellowship.

The Trustees January Meeting has been moved up to January 6th at 5 pm to allow time to work on the 2014 budget and the special challenges we will be facing in the coming year. If you have not already sent in your pledge, we urge you to do soon as we will need to know how much we have to work with.

We gratefully thank all of you who have supported our church through contributions, hard work and prayer over the past year and look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting.

Women's Fellowship News

Circle I would like to thank all of those who baked cookies and purchased cookies at the cookie walk. Our profit was a little over \$500.00. Half of this will go to a local mission project and half will be used for a church project. We would also like to thank Rosemary Abbett for the donation of 4 Christmas stockings for a raffle. June Deering and Doc Wagner were each the winner of 2 large stockings. Also thanks to those who stayed after the cookie walk to help clean up and take down and put up tables.

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 \$500, 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.

Flowers

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GoodSearch.com

With the arrival of a new year, 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, helps the church. So far, the church has earned \$40 just from Internet searches and shopping. Designate us by entering our church name as the charity of your choice.

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.

JANUARY 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
			1 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 12 Noon - AA 2:00 MS Support Barn	2 10 Central Wellness Exercise - Barn 12-5 - Bridge Club 5:00 MRT 5:30 NA - Barn 6:30 Kiwanis	3 12 Noon - LOWV Library	4 8:30 Zonta In Barn
5 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship	6 10:00 Central Well- ness - Barn 12-5 - Bridge Club 1-3 Crafts - Barn 5:00 Trustees 7:00 AA - Barn	7 10:00 Yoga -Barn 5:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 WAA - Barn	8 12 Noon - AA 3:30 Deacons	9 10 Central Wellness Exercise - Barn 10 Christian World Service 12-5 - Bridge Club 5:00 MRT	10 12 N - LOWV Library	11
12 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship	13 10:00 Central Well- ness - Barn 11:00 Commodities Dis- tribution 12-5 - Bridge Club 1-3 Crafts - Barn 7:00 AA - Barn	14 10 Yoga - Barn 5:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 WAA - Barn 7:00 Council	15 12 Noon - AA 6:30 Christian Ed	16 10 Central Wellness Exercise - Barn 12-5 - Bridge Club 5:00 MRT 5:30 NA - Barn 6:30 Kiwanis	17 12 N - LOWV Library	18
19 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship	20 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 10:00 Central Well- ness - Barn 12-5 - Bridge Club 1-3 Crafts - Barn 7:00 AA - Barn	21 10 Yoga - Barn 5:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 WAA - Barn	22 12 Noon - AA	23 10 Central Wellness Exercise - Barn 12-5 - Bridge Club 5:00 MRT 5:30 NA - Barn	24 12 N - LOWV Library	25
26 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Potluck 12:15 Annual Meeting	27 10:00 Central Well- ness - Barn 12-5 - Bridge Club 1-3 Crafts - Barn 7:00 AA - Barn	28 10:00 Yoga-Barn 5:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 WAA - Barn	29 12 Noon - AA	30 10 Central Wellness Exercise - Barn 12-5 - Bridge Club 5:00 MRT 5:30 NA - Barn	31 12 N - LOWV Library	

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