

# A JOYFUL NOISE !

June 2014

## **FROM OUR INTERIM MINISTER**

Well, here I am. I'm Chuck Guerrero, the new interim minister. Two days less than two weeks on the job and here I am: time for the newsletter already.

I live at 738 Eden Hill Drive. My phone number is 231.383.5921. My posted office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, 9:00 - 12:00. I'm actually in more than that, but those are the times you'll almost certainly be able to find me at church.

I'm here by myself. Jane, my wife, works for St. Mary's of Michigan Hospital in Saginaw. Jane is the midnight imaging tech (x-rays and CT scans), 11:00 PM - 7:30 AM, Monday through Friday at St. Mary's Towne Center facility near Fashion Square mall. She's keeping the home fires burning and will visit when she can (probably not very often). I'll be "bundling" my hours at work and my hours away, working two or three weeks with little (if any) time off, then going home for several days to be with Jane, and friends and family, including the 16-month-old first grandchild, Christopher.

I was ordained in 1975 and retired at the end of 2010. When I retired I was in my nineteenth year as the senior minister of the First Congregational Church of Saginaw. I'm glad to be in Benzonias, and looking forward to working with the leaders, members and friends of this church to get ready for the next settled minister. You'll be hearing more about all that in the months to come.

So yes, here I am. Stop by. Say hi. Invite me out. Invite me over. Get to know me and help me get to know you.

See you in church (and bring someone with you!).

Dr. Charles Guerrero

## **Highlights from the Board of Trustees Meeting on June 16, 2014**

At the June 16 Board of Trustees Meeting, our new interim pastor, Chuck Guerrero was introduced and welcomed. We are glad to have Chuck on board!

Treasurer, Chris Stone, reported that as of this date – the church is still “in the black.” Special notes: Utility costs for the winter have been higher than expected. One Great Hour of Sharing collected \$1090 up significantly from last year. A payment was made to Fred Edmonds retirement fund for helping us as interim pastor for 3 months. The Building Fund has a balance of \$39,081.

Earl Schopp made a report about the Church Council Meeting. The deacons are writing up a new checklist for the responsibilities of the ushers. Also, an outline for the use of the sound system will be written. Annual Beach Bums outing will be on July 29 – tickets are free.

Carol Dye reported that we are on track with getting all of the proposed projects completed this summer including finishing the landscaping, parking lot, windows and painting exterior windows & trim.

Interim pastor covenant and compensation package was discussed and will be completed soon. Term of the contract is for 6 months with possible extensions. The timeframe for finding the new pastor is anywhere from one to two years. Our interim pastor will assist us in completing this mission.

## Beach Bums Game . . . .

Come join us for a tailgate party and a Traverse City Beach Bums game!

The deacons have organized this as a fun activity that we can do as a church group. You can invite friends and family to join us on this outing.

On Tuesday, July 29, we will meet at the church at 5:00 p.m. for a tailgate party with hot dogs and other goodies. Then at about 6:15 we'll car pool to the game. There is 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.



### A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR JULY VOLUNTEERS -

	<u>COFFEE HOUR</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>
<b>July 6</b>	Deacons	Chris Stone	Doug and Mary Rodriguez
<b>July 13</b>	Sarah Circle IV	Linda Jenema	The Richards Family
<b>July 20</b>	Linda Jenema	Helen Dewey	Anne Young
<b>July 27</b>	Katrina Milks	Carol Dye	Chris Jones

**Head Usher:** Andy Wagner

**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.

**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 square-foot plot that covers future opening and closing as well as a memorial plaque to be placed on the stone along the walkway. Donations for perpetual care are welcomed.

**CHILDREN'S BOOK DEPOSIT:** At the entryway from the parking lot, just inside the doors on the left, is a wooden cabinet labeled "Children's Book Deposit." The Christian World Service Board is working to enhance a new relationship between our church and Crystal Lake Elementary school by donating children's books for their library or to be given directly to the students. Please bring books you would like to donate and use the new cabinet at the church.



**JULY BIRTHDAYS**

- 8 Dennis Richards
- 8 Cynthia Schnarr
- 9 Jared Milks
- 12 June Deering
- 13 Carl Nespor
- 16 Darlene Gray
- 22 Nancy Call
- 24 Neil Nugent
- 25 Hannah Rodriguez
- 29 Tiana Gould
- 30 David Van Hammen
- 30 Anna Butts
- 31 Aaron Hickey



**JULY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1 John and Rosemary Abbett
- 4 Ted and Jo Bahry

**FLOWERS**

There is a sign-up sheet outside the church office for altar flowers. If you would like to supply flowers, please sign up for a certain date. You may then bring in your own flowers or donate \$25 and we will order flowers from a local florist.



**OPEN HOUSE**

Please come to celebrate

**June Deering's  
90<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2-4 p.m.

at

Michigan Shores Great Room  
641 Michigan Avenue Frankfort

No gifts please.

**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 June to pray for the ongoing mission and ministries of the First Congregational Church of Lewiston.

**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:  
Pink Rearick at The Homesteader;  
Mary Hopkins at Paul Oliver Long Term Care;  
Gordon Nordbeck at The Maples;  
Rosemary Miller and Betty Hickman at The Pines;  
Helen Pickard, Pat Forrester, and Dee Lyons in T.C.  
Homebound or facing health concerns: Marjorie Call, Buck Hall, Mona McElderry, Susan Lutes, Brenda Case, Laura Brian, Jean Voight, Doii Burget, Joan and Jerry Richardson, and Mary from the Ukraine.

**Reminder:** If you, a loved one, or a church member you know is in the hospital, please let the church office know so that our minister 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.

# JULY 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
		<b>1</b> 10:00 Yoga -Barn  7:00 WAA - Barn	<b>2</b>  12 Noon - AA-Barn	<b>3</b> 10 Central Wellness Exercise - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:30 NA - Barn 6:30 - Kiwanis 7:30 Choir Practice	<b>4</b>  <b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>  10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship	<b>7</b> 10:00 Central Wellness - Barn 11:00 Commodities Distribution 12-5 - Bridge Club  7:00 AA - Barn	<b>8</b> 10:00 Yoga -Barn  7:00 Council 7:00 WAA - Barn	<b>9</b>  12 Noon - AA-Barn  3:00 Deacons	<b>10</b> 10 Central Wellness Exercise - Barn  12-5 Bridge Club  5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>  10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship	<b>14</b> 10:00 Central Wellness - Barn 12-5 - Bridge Club  7:00 AA - Barn	<b>15</b> 10 Yoga - Barn  7:00 WAA - Barn	<b>16</b>  12 Noon - AA-Barn	<b>17</b> 10 Central Wellness Exercise - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:30 NA - Barn 6:30 - Kiwanis 7:30 Choir Practice	<b>18</b>  <b>8:00 Church Campfire</b>	<b>19</b>  <b>8:00 Church Campfire</b>
<b>20</b>  10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship	<b>21</b> 10:00 Central Wellness - Barn 12-5 - Bridge Club  5:00 Trustees 7:00 AA - Barn	<b>22</b> 10 Yoga - Barn  7:00 WAA - Barn	<b>23</b>  12 Noon - AA-Barn	<b>24</b> 10 Central Wellness Exercise - Barn  12-5 Bridge Club 5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>  10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Living with Loss	<b>28</b> 10:00 Central Wellness - Barn 12-5 - Bridge Club 7:00 AA - Barn	<b>29</b> 10 Yoga - Barn <b>5:00 Beach Bums</b> 7:00 WAA - Barn	<b>30</b>  12 Noon - AA-Barn	<b>31</b> 10 Central Wellness Exercise - Barn  12-5 Bridge Club 5:30 NA - Barn		

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

## ***A Joyful Noise! July 2014***

### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC BENZONIA, MICHIGAN

Dr. Charles Guerreno ..... Interim Minister  
Chris Stone .....Treasurer  
Mary Rodriguez.. .....Financial Secretary  
James Sheets.....Church Moderator  
Carolina Jones .....Christian Ed Coordinators  
Jessie Zeller ..... 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)