

A JOYFUL NOISE !

July 2015

FROM OUR INTERIM MINISTER

If you're a baseball fan, it won't surprise you to hear this hasn't been a real good week for someone who's preached "The Annual St. Louis Cardinals Sermon" twenty-three times. As someone said, "Win or lose, the Cardinals always get their hacks."

Yes, the Cardinals did hack the Houston Astros database, but all signs point to a couple of information technology guys who had a grudge against Jeff Luhnow, now the Astros' general manager, but formerly the Cardinals' director of scouting and player development. One St. Louis sportswriter calls it "a hopelessly idiotic [stunt] pulled off by low-level rascals who acted alone . . ." It was also, says sports columnist Bernie Miklasz, "a serious breach of ethics and a violation of federal law."

Sigh.

Wait and see, I guess, but for now there's a segue here to this summer's sermon series on the Ten Commandments. Beginning Sunday, July 5 and continuing through Sunday, September 13 (with July 26 off for vacation), I'll preach consecutive sermons based on Exodus 20:1-17. See the week-by-week schedule below.

The segue? Note to low-level rascals: Exodus 20:15 and 17.

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

Dr. Charles Guerrero
Interim minister

SUMMER SERMON SERIES ON THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

July 5:	"Patriotism and Religion"	August 16:	"Killing and Murder"
July 12:	"Statues and Guns"	August 23:	"Marriage and Sex"
July 19:	"God's Name and God's Heart"	August 30:	"Stealing and Justice"
August 2:	"Sunday and Sabbath"	September 6:	"Truthing and Lying"
August 9:	"Parents and Children"	September 13:	"Envy and Respect"

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 28, 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.



Highlights from the Board of Trustees Meeting on June 15,2015

Treasurer Chris Stone reported that computers were purchased for herself and Mary Rodriguez. The Building Fund has a balance of \$11,653.37.

Trustees decided to go ahead with replacing the faucets in the women’s restroom. There was a discussion about the lighting in the nave. Carol Dye reported that Glen Lake Electric suggested six panels of dimmers at a cost of \$3500 - \$4000, installed. It was decided that further consideration is needed on this matter. The church website was discussed. The email link is not working. Also, the sound system is still not recording properly. Chris Stone will now get her own church email address. A guideline on clergy salaries was handed out. This was based on experience and average attendance. Interim minister, Chuck Guerreno, said he feels our church is easily able to have a full-time minister. The Renew songbooks have been removed from the pews by Barb Brian because she feels they were damaging the pew book holder. They are being stored in the building.

Sunday School to Hold Bake Sale on July 12



The Sunday School students are going to participate in quarterly service projects as part of our “Love Thy Neighbor” lesson. The first project will be providing support for Mrs. Mullen’s Closet.

On Sunday, July 12th, the Sunday School will be holding a Bake Sale following the worship service. The money raised will be donated to Mrs. Mullen’s Closet. Anyone interested in donating items for the Bake Sale should contact Carolina Jones or Beth Sheets.

The goal of Mrs. Mullen’s Closet is to provide necessities to students in all five Benzie County Elementary Schools. It all began with Mrs. Mullen herself. Dyanne Mullen was the principal in the Hart School District. Each fall she would notice kids without enough clothes to keep them warm and dry. She decided to start collecting clothes for students in need and she kept those clothes in a closet in her office.

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR JULY VOLUNTEERS -

	<u>COFFEE HOUR</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>
July 5	Deacons	Chris Stone	David VanHammen
July 12	Sarah Circle IV	Linda Jenema	Harold Case
July 19	Linda Jenema	Helen Dewey	Bill and Verna Schnarr
July 26	Chris Jones	Carol Dye	Ardith Jones

Head Usher: Earl Schopp

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
- 29 Lynn Stephens
- 30 David Van Hammen
- 30 Anna Butts
- 31 Aaron Hickey



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

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

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THOSE FACING HEALTH CONCERNS:

- Brenda Case**
- Tom Kennard**
- Linda Ponte**

THOSE IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES:

- Pink Rearick** who is at the Homesteader.
- Mary Hopkins** who is at Frankfort Senior Care.
- Gordon Nordbeck** who is at The Maples.
- Rosemary Miller and Flo Wellman** who are at The Pines
- Helen Pickard, Pat Forrester, and Hal Bruning** who are in Traverse City.

FOR OUR SHUT-INS:

- Mona McElderry**
- Doii Burget**

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.

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 July to pray for the ongoing mission and ministries of the First Congregational Church of Clare.

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.



JULY 2015

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

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

A Joyful Noise! July 2015

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC BENZONIA, MICHIGAN

Dr. Charles Guerreno Interim Minister
Chris StoneTreasurer
Mary Rodriguez..Financial Secretary
James Sheets.....Church Moderator
Carolina JonesChristian Ed Coordinator
Jessie Zeller Custodian
Nancy EgglestonSecretary

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