

A JOYFUL NOISE!

March 2017

From the Interim Minister:

Hello members and friends of First Congregational Church. You probably are aware that I was originally contracted to "fill in" on the four Sundays in February. Recently, I agreed to become the full time interim minister. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve this congregation.

My wife, Jennifer, and I moved to Frankfort about a year and a half ago. We love living "up north." We have three children between us and they live in Kentucky and Kansas. We share our home with our two faithful dogs, Lily and Gomer.

I have been doing interim ministries for over eleven years now. It has been a very rewarding experience. My ordination is in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), but I have a very close connection with the United Church of Christ as well.

The role of the interim minister is to help the congregation prepare for the calling of a new permanent minister. With that in mind, I hope you will join me in support of the work of our search committee.

Please don't hesitate to contact me by phone or email.

I look forward to the time we have together.

Tim Murtaugh

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Christine Gehring
- 1 Susie Vigland
- 1 Tim Brian
- 2 Helen Pickard
- 2 Miriam Godoshian
- 3 Liam Jones
- 3 John Riegler
- 3 Brandon Sauer
- 5 Pink Rearick
- 5 Brent Strom
- 6 Calvin Smith
- 6 Carson Case
- 7 Beau Wagner
- 9 Jo Bahry
- 9 Ayden Webb
- 10 Belle Van Hammen
- 11 Ted Bahry
- 11 Bev Brouwer
- 12 Jeffrey Maddock
- 12 Kristin Richards
- 13 Lucas Richards
- 16 Genny Bowman
- 18 James Hinkamp
- 19 Mary Hopkins
- 22 Maria Wolowiec
- 22 Caleb Case
- 24 Carol Davidson
- 24 Nick Danford
- 26 Judith Herban
- 27 Pat Mead
- 29 Carol Dye
- 30 Spencer Manning, Jr.

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Dennis & Kristin Richards
- 26 Rob and Debra Rafferty

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS***THOSE FACING HEALTH CONCERNS:***

Brenda Case	Ruth Blacklock
Judy Herban	Jean Bowers
Tom Kennard	Nancy Reynolds
Gary Brouwer	David Neiger

THOSE IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES:

Pink Rearick who is at the Culver Meadows
Mary Hopkins who is at Frankfort Senior Care
Rosemary Miller who is at The Pines
Helen Pickard, Pat Forrester, and Hal Bruning who are in Traverse City

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 March to pray for the ongoing mission and ministries of First Congregational Church, UCC, of Atlanta.

FLOWERS

If you would like to supply flowers, please sign up on the sign posted on the bulletin board, and indicate who the flowers honor or memorialize. You may then bring in your own flowers or donate \$25 to the church to make the arrangements with a local florist.

**SPRING AHEAD**

Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, March 11. You don't want to be late for church on Sunday morning!

CHURCH CORE VALUES

I was reminded recently that at our annual meeting someone had asked, what are our Church's core values? No one at the meeting had a ready reply. As part of the Pastor Search Committee's work, it had to prepare a Church Profile for interested pastors to review to learn about us. In preparation for doing this, a questionnaire was distributed asking the congregation to rate in order from a long list, what they considered our core values. These responses were correlated by the search committee. In addition to a strong work ethic, the following were the top choices and are reflected in our Church Profile, to quote, " Among our congregation's chief core values are integrity, caring, family and reliability. These traits along with compassion, spirituality, acceptance, equality and a recognition of the history and traditions of our Church are important in our pastor."

Jerry W. Slater, Moderator

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

March 5th is Women's Sunday. Cath Kelder will be giving the message. The circles will meet Wednesday March 1st and the general meeting will be on the 22nd at 1:00. We will be preparing a meal for our guests from the Maples and Long Term Care. Christy Case's students will be performing before the dinner. Many thanks to all who helped with the dinner for Chuck. It is always so nice to work with you.

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR MARCH VOLUNTEERS

	<u>COFFEE HOUR</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>
Mar 5	Deacons	Pat Schopp	Linda Joy, Ann Nordbeck
Mar 12	Chris Gehring	Carol Dye	Pat & Earl Schopp
Mar 19	Helen Dewey	Kay Bos	Ardith Jones
Mar 26	Mary Wolke	Chris Jones	

HEAD USHER Doug Rodriguez

March 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
			1 12 N - AA - Barn 1:00 - Circle I 7:00 AA - Barn	2 12 N - AA - Barn 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA - Barn	3 9 Centra-Wellness Barn 12 N - LOWV	4
5 10:30 Church School 10:30 Worship (Women's Sunday)	6 10:00 Central Wellness - Barn 11:00 Commodities Distribution 12 N - AA - Barn 2:00 Centra Wellness - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Love, INC 7:00 AA - Barn	7 10:00 Yoga-Barn 12 N - AA - Barn 7:00 WAA - Barn	8 12 N - AA - Barn 7:00 AA - Barn	9 12 N - AA - Barn 4:00 Deacons 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA - Barn	10 9 Centra-Wellness Barn 12 N - LOWV Library	11 8:30 - Men's Fellowship @ Papa J's
12 Daylight Savings Time Begins 10:30 Church School 10:30 Worship	13 10:00 Centra Wellness - Barn 12 N - AA - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 2:00 Centra Wellness - Barn 5:00 Love, INC 7:00 AA - Barn	14 10:00 Yoga-Barn 12 N - AA - Barn 7:00 Council 7:00 WAA - Barn	15 12 N - AA - Barn 7:00 AA - Barn	16 12 N - AA - Barn 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA - Barn	17 9 Centra-Wellness Barn 12 N - LOWV Library	18 8-12 Zonta - Barn
19 10:30 Church School 10:30 Worship	20 10:00 Centra Wellness - Barn 12 N - AA - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 2:00 Centra Wellness - Barn 5:00 Trustees 5:00 Love, INC 7:00 AA - Barn	21 10:00 Yoga 12 N - AA - Barn 7:00 WAA - Barn	22 12 N - AA - Barn 12N - WF Executive Board 1 Women's Fellowship Maples Dinner 7:00 AA - Barn	23 12 N - AA - Barn 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA - Barn	24 9 Centra-Wellness Barn 12 N - LOWV Library	25
26 10:30 Church School 10:30 Worship (One Great Hour of Sharing)	27 10:00 Centra Wellness - Barn 12 N - AA - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 2:00 Centra Wellness - Barn 5:00 Love, INC 7:00 AA - Barn	28 10:00 Yoga-Barn 12 N - AA - Barn 7:00 WAA - Barn	29 12 N - AA - Barn 7:00 - AA - Barn	30 12 N AA - Barn 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA - Barn	31 9 Centra Wellness Barn 12 N - LOWV Library	

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A Joyful Noise March 2017

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC BENZONIA, MICHIGAN

Rev. Timothy Murtaugh.....	Interim Minister
Chris Stone	Treasurer
Mary Rodriguez..	Financial Secretary
Jerry Slater.....	Church Moderator
Carolina Jones	Christian Ed Coordinator
Rose DuFrane	Custodian
Mary Ellen Wagner.....	Organist

Office phone: 231-882-4922

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

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<http://www.benzoniacongregational.org>

Our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/BenzoniaCongregational