

A JOYFUL NOISE!

May 2017

Hello from the First Congregational Church,

Here is some information that I hope you will read.

1. We will be offering a Bible Study in May. It has been scheduled for Wednesday evenings, May 10, 17, 24 and 31. There will be a pot luck supper beginning at 6:00 and the study will begin around 7:00. The subject will be the stories of King David which are found in 1-2 Samuel. Please let me know if you will be attending this study so I can prepare appropriately.

2. I would like to ask for volunteers to assist me in the worship services. Reading the scripture and leading in the call to worship are possibilities. After compiling a list of volunteers, we will make out a calendar for service. Please see me if you would like to be a worship leader.

3. In June we will be receiving a special offering through the United Church of Christ called "Strengthen the Church." Strengthen the Church (STC) is a special mission offering to reimagine and build the future of the UCC. Shared at the conference and national levels, STC largely supports youth ministries and full-time leaders for new churches in parts of the country where the UCC voice has not been heard.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. We will be receiving this offering on June 18.

4. We had a basketball pool for the NCAA tournament and the winner was Andy Wagner. Andy would like the proceeds to go toward our celebration of graduates. That celebration will take place on June 4 and Andy would love to talk to anyone who would like to work with him in planning a great occasion.

Tim Murtaugh

PS: I will be changing my office hours in May. Beginning then, office hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00-1:00. I will be happy to schedule an appointment any time. Additionally, I will be taking Friday as my day off instead of Thursday.

May Birthdays

- 1 Dick Henry
- 1 Trish Manning
- 6 Trevor Danford
- 7 Wade Peacock
- 9 Taylor Johnson
- 12 Katrina Smith
- 15 Joanne Applehof
- 21 Sally Moss
- 23 Marilyn Sheets
- 25 Steve Stephens
- 25 Bill Bos
- 26 Rob Wolowiec
- 26 Sabra Danford
- 27 Kris Johnson
- 29 Ruth Blacklock
- 30 Larry Czap



May Anniversaries

- 5 John and Barbara Riegler
- 7 Don and Jean Voight
- 9 Al and Anne Young
- 13 Michael and Nancy Call
- 17 Scott and Kathy Neveu
- 23 Wayne and Marilee Strom
- 27 Larry and Nancy Czap

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THOSE FACING HEALTH CONCERNS:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Brenda Case | Ruth Blacklock |
| Judy Herban | Jean Bowers |
| Nancy Reynolds | David Neiger |
| Gary Brouwer | |

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

FAMILIES OF THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY:

- Mickey Austin**
Tom Kennard

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 May to pray for the ongoing mission and ministries of First Congregational Church of Brutus.

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.



A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR MAY VOLUNTEERS

- May 7**
- May 14**
- May 21**
- May 28**

COFFEE HOUR

- Deacons
- Chris Stone
- Work Bee
- Barb Brian

NURSERY

- Char Patterson
- Nancy Call
- Kristi Johnson
- Chris Stone

HEAD USHER

Larry Wolke

LIBRARY NEWS

I share with you two books I read this winter which I found highly readable, interesting, and thought-provoking. The authors are two of my favorites. You'll find the books a bit dog-eared but I don't think I underlined! I'll certainly be back to them in the future.

Buechner 101: Essays and Sermons by Frederick Buechner...

Presbyterian minister, Buechner is considered one of the most important writer-theologians of the 20th/21st centuries. As might be guessed from the title, this book is an introduction to Buechner. Samples from his essays, sermons and excerpts from memoirs and novels as well as tributes by admirers may leave you wanting to read more of his writings. I highly recommend *Listening to Your Life: Daily Meditations with Frederic Buechner*.

The AlsoLife...Barbara Cawthorne Crafton, an Episcopal priest and author of many books explores death as a dimension of life offering an interesting and refreshing view on time and death. She touches on questions which we all have as life moves onward. While you may not agree with her answers they do provoke thought. Her meditation upon time and mortality invites us to face death head on and to replace many of our inherited images and notions of an 'afterlife' with an expansive vision of an 'alsoLife.'

CIRCLE 1

Circle 1 will have an informal gathering at the Cherry Hut on Wed., 5/17 @ 12:30. We will review the Mother/Daughter Banquet. Please let Chris Stone know if you plan on being there so we can reserve space. 882-5205 or chrisjstone47@gmail.com

SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY

There's work to be done around our church to make it sparkle. Please join us for a spring cleaning workbee after worship on May 21.

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The April Board of Trustees met on the 14th. Our budget was in the black for the month of March. We have switched from ATT to Charter for our phone and internet service. Milarchs will be contacted for our outdoor spring clean up. We are having sensors placed on outside lights to come on at dusk. This will eliminate the problem of having to change the timers for the day length and after every power outage. Kevin Ingleston and Bill Kennis of Boy Scout Troop 267 met with trustees about us becoming the charter organization for their troop. They will lose their current charter organization in November and would no longer be a troop. We discussed the benefits and responsibilities for the troop and for the church. At the conclusion, we decided to recommend to the Church Council that we become the chartering organization for Troop 267. Our next meeting is May 15 at 5 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

There will be a special offering for One Great Hour of Sharing on Sunday, May 14 (Mother's Day). When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, it goes to those suffering from natural disasters (nationally and world-wide), war, or systemic poverty. Response is immediate for those in disaster situations. We have a goal of \$500 for this offering. Please help those in need.

FROM BENZIE SENIOR RESOURCES

BENZIE SENIOR RESOURCES is the new agency in Benzie County serving the needs of our growing senior population. They bring together the services of the Council on Aging and the Benzie Home Healthcare . Currently they are providing over 120 meals a day to those wanting to keep their independence and continue to be in their homes. Volunteers are needed each day to drive with a companion one of the four meal routes. You can choose which days you can be available and how many days you wish to do. Call the BSR office and learn how you can participate in this important service. The number is (231) 525-0600.

FROM BENZIE SENIOR RESOURCES

We need your help!

Volunteer Drivers Needed for Benzie Senior Resources Home Delivered Meals Program

Are you ready to make a difference?



Benzie Senior Resources is in need of volunteer drivers to deliver hot meals to homebound seniors. Whether you drive weekly or just once a month your help is needed. Our drivers are often the only outside contact our homebound seniors have on a daily basis.

If you love to drive, then this is the opportunity for you! Tour around beautiful Benzie County using someone else's gas and vehicle while bringing delicious goodness to those who truly need it! PLEASE give us a call today at (231) 525-0601.

Requirements:

- ✓ Must be 18 years old
- ✓ Have a valid driver's license
- ✓ Because we serve a frail and vulnerable clientele, all volunteers will be subject to a background check



May 2017

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| | 1 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) | 2 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12 N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn) | 3 12 N AA (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn) | 4 12 N AA (Barn) 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir | 5 9:00 Centra Wellness (Barn) 12 N LOWV (Library) | 6 |
| 7 10:30 Worship & Church School | 8 10:00 Centra Wellness (Barn) 11:00 Commodities Distribution 12 N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 2:00 Centra Wellness (Barn) 5:00 LoveINC 7:00 AA (Barn) | 9 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12 N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn) 7:00 Council | 10 12 N AA (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn) | 11 12 N AA (Barn) 4:00 Deacons 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir | 12 9:00 Centra Wellness (Barn) 12 N LOWV (Library) | 13 8-12 Zonta (Barn) 8:30 Men's Breakfast @ Papa J's |
| 14 10:30 Worship & Church School (One Great Hour of Sharing) | 15 10:00 Centra Wellness (Barn) 12 N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 2:00 Centra Wellness (Barn) 5:00 Love INC 5:00 Trustees 7:00 AA (Barn) | 16 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12 N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn) | 17 12 N AA (Barn) 12:30 Circle 1 @ Cherry Hut 7:00 AA (Barn) | 18 12 N AA (Barn) 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir | 19 9:00 Centra Wellness (Barn) 12 N LOWV (Library) | 20 |
| 21 10:30 Worship & Church School (Spring Clean-Up) | 22 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) | 23 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12 N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn) | 24 12 N AA (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn) | 25 12 N AA (Barn) 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir | 26 9:00 Centra Wellness (Barn) 12 N LOWV (Library) | 27 |
| 28 10:30 Worship & Church School | 29 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) | 30 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12 N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn) | 31 12 N AA (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn) | | | |

First Congregational Church, UCC
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Benzonia, MI 49616
Phone: (231) 882-4922

A Joyful Noise May 2017

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC BENZONIA, MICHIGAN

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Dr. 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.

Office Email: secretary@benzoniacongregational.org

<http://www.benzoniacongregational.org>

Our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/BenzoniaCongregational