

A JOYFUL NOISE!

May 2018

Hello Fellow Sojourners,

For the better part of the past four months Sara, Jim, and myself have been walking with Malia and Liam on their faith journey, walking towards confirmation. It has been a fantastic journey, speaking from my piece of the conversation.

A few weeks ago, we held the conversation time in the fellowship hall instead of the classroom. We invited all of you to come and join in. I had laid out lots of pictures. All of them representing a view, picture, feeling, of God, Jesus, or the Holy Spirit. Some of the images were comforting. Some of the images, well, not so much. It was uplifting to hear everyone's interpretation of the images and how they make each of us feel. One person's picture of comfort was another's place of distress.

This past week during Faith Formation class we did a small meditation followed with artwork. I asked everyone to express how they saw or felt God, Jesus, or the Holy Spirit at that moment. The pictures and conversation that followed was exceptional.

This has been a long story to say that we all see and feel the Trinity in diverse ways. We all have different interpretations and opinions. What a blessing!! It is a blessing that they can be shared here without judgement, without accusation, within conversation, within acceptance of who we are individually, with happiness and joy.

May 6th is the Spaghetti Lunch for Malia and Liam. May 20th is Pentecost Sunday and we will be worshiping through Baptism, Confirmation, and New Members. Come and be present, sharing God's love as we journey as a follower of Jesus, moved by the Holy Spirit.

See you along The Way,

Pastor Patty

MAY BIRTHDAYS

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



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 John and Barbara Riegler
- 7 Donald and Jean Voight
- 13 Michael and Nancy Call
- 17 Scott and Kathy Neveu
- 23 Wayne and Marilee Strom

What is BIG Sunday?

BIG stands for Bring In Groceries; groceries brought in on BIG Sundays are donated to Benzie Area Christian Neighbors (BACN) to help provide a meal to those in need. BIG Sundays are the first Sunday of every month — as are Holy Communion Sundays — and are a great way for us to share the love and feast of communion and community.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Helen Dewey | Hanmer Family |
| Nancy Reynolds | Pete Moss |
| Ruth Blacklock | Jim |
| Pat Forrester | Mark |
| Helen Pickard | Joyce |
| Family of Earl Baker | Hal Bruning |
| Brougham Family | Emma |
| Eric Atkinson | |

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 to pray this month for the ongoing mission and ministries of Onekama UCC.

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 \$30 to the church to make the arrangements with a local florist.



THANK YOU TO OUR MAY VOLUNTEERS

- | | COFFEE | NURSERY |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| MAY 6 | Deacons | Nancy Call |
| MAY 13 | Chris Stone | Agnes Slater |
| MAY 20 | Potluck | Kristi Johnson |
| MAY 27 | Graduation | Chris Stone |

HEAD USHER: Larry Wulke

SPAGHETTI LUNCH FUNDRAISER

On Sunday, May 6th, the Soul Sisters and Carol Dye will be hosting a Spaghetti Lunch following Worship Service. A Free Will Offering will be collected for those wanting to donate.

In July, Malia Jackson and Liam Jones, along with Pastor Patty, will be attending the UCC Great Lakes Regional Youth Event at Elmhurst College. The funds raised from the Spaghetti Lunch will be used to defray the cost of the event. This is an excellent opportunity for our young adults and we are honored to do our part to continue their spiritual growth.

CIRCLE I

Circle I will meet Wednesday, May 16 at 12:30 at the Cherry Hut. Please let Chris Stone if you will be there so she can let the Cherry Hut know how large a table will be needed.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET

Circle I would like to thank all those who helped make the Mother-Daughter Banquet a success. A special thanks to Carol Dye for preparing the food and coordinating the kitchen help. Also thanks to all the men and boys who helped serve and clean up. We couldn't have done it without you.

THANK YOU NOTES

“My family and I want to say thank you for all the thoughts and prayers from everyone there at the church. We really appreciated it, it sure was a long stressful couple of months with Dad. Then for a few days in that time frame our mom was in the hospital for a few days for her health which is doing a lot better now. Now my dad is pain-free and up in heaven with our brother Craig. They are both up there in good hands with our Heavenly Father. Thank you again everyone for all the thoughts and prayers! God bless, Sharlene, Bob & AJ Patterson and the Earl Baker Family”

“Thank you Benzonia Congregational Church for the wonderful, delicious dinner.
—The Maples”

All of our thank you notes are posted on the bulletin board for you to read and enjoy!

May 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 4-7 HCCS 7:00 WAA (Barn)	2 12N AA (Barn) 6:00 UCC History & Polity 7:00 AA (Barn)	3 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 4-7 HCCS 5:00 MRT (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	4 9:00 Moms in Prayer 9-4 Centra Wellness (Barn) 12N LOWV (Library) 5:30-7 Kiirtan Yoga/Meditation (Barn)	5
6 10:30 Worship & Church School BIG Sunday Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser Sign Party New Member Conversation	7 9-12 Centra Wellness (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Love, INC 7:00 AA (Barn)	8 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 4-7 HCCS 7:00 WAA (Barn)	9 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	10 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 4-7 HCCS 5:00 MRT (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	11 9:00 Moms in Prayer 9-4 Centra Wellness (Barn) 12N LOWV (Library) 5:30-7 Kiirtan Yoga/Meditation (Barn)	12 8:30 Men's Breakfast @ Papa J's
13 10:30 Worship & Church School New Member Conversation	14 9-12 Centra Wellness (Barn) 11:00 Commodities Distribution 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Love, INC 7:00 AA (Barn)	15 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 4-7 HCCS 7:00 Council 7:00 WAA (Barn)	16 12N AA (Barn) 12:30 Circle I at Cherry Hut 6:00 UCC History & Polity 7:00 AA (Barn)	17 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 4-7 HCCS 5:00 MRT (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	18 9:00 Moms in Prayer 9-4 Centra Wellness (Barn) 12N LOWV (Library) 5:30-7 Kiirtan Yoga/Meditation (Barn)	19
20 10:30 Worship & Church School Strengthen the Church Offering New Member Sunday Potluck	21 9-12 Centra Wellness (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Trustees 7:00 AA (Barn)	22 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 4-7 HCCS 7:00 WAA (Barn)	23 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	24 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 4-7 HCCS 5:00 MRT (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	25 9:00 Moms in Prayer 9-4 Centra Wellness (Barn) 12N LOWV (Library) 5:30-7 Kiirtan Yoga/Meditation (Barn)	26
27 10:30 Worship & Church School Graduation Sunday	28 9-12 Centra Wellness (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 7:00 AA (Barn)	29 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 4-7 HCCS 7:00 WAA (Barn)	30 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	31 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 4-7 HCCS 5:00 MRT (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir		

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BENZONIA UCC BENZONIA, MICHIGAN

Patty Higgins.....	Pastor
Chris Stone	Treasurer
Mary Rodriguez.. ..	Financial Secretary
Mary Ellen Wagner.....	Organist
Andy Wagner.....	Sound Technician
Rose DuFrane	Custodian
Samantha Mullet.....	Secretary
Melanie Bredbanner.....	Nursery Staff
Jerry Slater.....	Church Moderator
Carolina Jones	Christian Ed Coordinator

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Our Website: <http://www.benzoniacongregational.org>

Our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/BenzoniaCongregational