

A JOYFUL NOISE!

November 2017

Hi Fellow Travelers,

I would like to invite you to think about Dr. Pepper today. And if I may add another layer, Dr. Pepper as the Holy Spirit.

Let me give you some backstory first. About this time every month I have a friend that calls me and asks what I am writing about for the newsletter. We have a short conversation over some thought. This month I reversed the role. I texted her and asked what she was writing about this month, as I was stumped for a subject. It went like this:

Me: My turn...What's the subject for the newsletter this month???

Her: No idea. I know. I have to think of one, too. Maybe stewardship

Me: Blahhhhhh (please note that I think stewardship is important, I just couldn't think of a way to communicate it in a newsletter in a way that you have not yet heard.)

Her: Reformation 500 years?

Me: Nope... not feeling it.

Her: Dr. Pepper. And how it is good for the soul...?

Me: Now you're talking. :)

She and I spent many an hour writing, reading, just plain talking, and there was always a Dr. Pepper at hand. When we would go out for tacos there was a Dr. Pepper. Burgers, yep, Dr. Pepper. When the tears of exhaustion fell one of us would head for the fridge. When parents died or there was anxiety over a drive-by shooting at the school where we worked, DP and a box of tissues plus a dry shoulder to the rescue. A bottle of it would be open when apologies were made over actions done or undone.

Dr. Pepper was good for our souls. Still is when we chat via Skype or on the phone. It is in the share space of friendship, fellowship, forgiveness, love, and grace.

So, my friends, I invite you to think about your version of Dr. Pepper. What holds the space for the Holy Spirit to move with you?

See you along the way,

Patty

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Elsie Walton
- 2 Arthur Wolfe
- 3 Barbara Hanmer
- 5 Agnes Slater
- 7 Mike Jones
- 8 Nancy Reynolds
- 9 Sonny Rodriguez
- 10 Mark Thompson
- 13 Jeanne Hafer
- 13 Evan Milks
- 15 Carolina Jones
- 20 Malia Jackson
- 22 Linda Jenema
- 24 Sonni Rodriguez
- 25 Pat Schopp
- 27 Larry Wolke
- 29 Tom Swanson



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 24 Tad and Margie Peacock

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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 to pray this month for the ongoing mission and ministries of First Congregational Church of Ironton.

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.



THANK YOU TO OUR NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS

COFFEE

NURSERY

Nov 5	Deacons	Nancy Call
Nov 12	Call Family	Christy Case
Nov 19	Soul Sisters	Mary Rodriguez
Nov 26	Linda Jenema	Bev Brouwer

HEAD USHER: Sonny Rodriguez

FROM THE DEACONS

We will not be having communion on the first Sunday in November but instead we will be having it on November 26th, which is the first Sunday of Advent.

Our church will be hosting the Community Thanksgiving Service this year. It will be held on Sunday, November 19th at 3pm. We hope you will join us in praise and thanksgiving for all our many blessings.

Once again our church will be participating in the Benzie Senior Resources Christmas Gift Bags. This is the way the Senior Resources reminds the seniors they are not forgotten. For many, family is no longer local and many friends have passed on. Age and lack of financial resources keep them constrained to their homes during the holidays. This year we will once again be collecting shampoo, conditioner, and soap. If you have anything else you think the seniors might enjoy, feel free to bring it also. There will be a basket in the Fellowship Hall to collect the items. Monday, December 11th is the pickup day so please have your items in before then. Thank you all for your kindness.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Women's Fellowship will meet November 1 @ 1:00. Dan from the county jail will be speaking. All who are interested may join us.

CIRCLE I

Circle I will meet Wednesday 11/15 @ 1:00 at the church. Pat Schopp is the hostess.

Reminder that the Advent Workshop is coming up 12/3. We are looking for people to share crafts and help decorate the church. Mark your calendar for the cookie walk on 12/10.

LIBRARY NEWS

Before We Were Yours... Set in both the 1930s and present day, this story follows the Foss children in the 1930s and Avery Stafford in the present. In doing so it brings to light a horrifying and shameful real-life scandal.

From the 30s to 1950, a woman named Georgia Tann, who ran the (Memphis) Tennessee Children's Home Society, stole poor children from their families and newborn babies from single mothers and sold them to celebrities, politicians, and others who could afford them. It was all done under the guise of helping orphaned and abandoned children find good homes.

The Foss children of this story are an example of this practice. Present-day Avery Stafford finds a puzzling photograph that leads to an ever-more-confusing story of secrets within her upright, respected family. Wingate spins a riveting, wrenching, and ultimately uplifting tale of love, betrayal, and heartaches.

If you read *Orphan Train* or *The Nightingale*, this is for you.

The book was donated by Sarah Circle in memory of June Deering.

November 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 12N AA (Barn) 1:00 Women's Fellowship 6:30 Study: 500 Reformation 7:00 AA (Barn)	2 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	3 12N LOWV (Library)	4 3-8 Benzie County FFA Chili Dinner Fundraiser
5 10:30 Worship & Church School 12N Study: 500 Reformation	6 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 2:00 Centra Wellness (Barn) 5:00 Love, INC 7:00 AA (Barn)	7 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	8 10:30 Love, INC Safe Harbor 12N AA (Barn) 6:30 Study: 500 Reformation 7:00 AA (Barn)	9 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 4:00 Deacons 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA (Barn)	10 12N LOWV (Library)	11 8:30 Men's Breakfast @ Papa J's
12 10:30 Worship & Church School (Veterans' Sunday) 12N Study: 500 Reformation	13 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 2:00 Centra Wellness (Barn) 5:00 Love, INC 7:00 AA (Barn)	14 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 Council 7:00 WAA (Barn)	15 12N AA (Barn) 1:00 Circle I 5:30 Safe Harbor Love, INC Potluck Q&A 6:30 Study: 500 Reformation 7:00 AA (Barn)	16 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	17 12N LOWV (Library)	18 Zonta (Barn)
19 10:30 Worship & Church School 12N Study: 500 Reformation 3:00 Community Thanksgiving Service	20 12N 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 (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	22 12N AA (Barn) 6:30 Study: 500 Reformation 7:00 AA (Barn)	23 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	24 12N LOWV (Library)	25
26 10:30 Worship & Church School	27 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 2:00 Centra Wellness (Barn) 5:00 Love, INC 7:00 AA (Barn)	28 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	29 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	30 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 MRT 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir		

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

If you have not already done so, please fill out the following and return it to the church office as soon as possible, *even if your information has not changed*. We want to be sure everyone's information is current. Information can also be emailed to the church office (secretary@benzoniacongregational.org). Thanks for your help!

YES, include me in the directory **NO, do not include me in the directory**

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

WINTER ADDRESS: _____

DATES TO USE WINTER ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

BIRTHDAY(S): _____

Mail me a copy of the monthly newsletter, *A Joyful Noise*

Email me a copy of the monthly newsletter, *A Joyful Noise*

I do not wish to receive the monthly newsletter, *A Joyful Noise*

Mail me a completed directory

I will pick a completed directory up at the church

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

A Joyful Noise November 2017

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 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

Office Phone: 231-882-4922 Office Hours: M–F 9am–12noon

Office Email: secretary@benzoniacongregational.org

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

Our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/BenzoniaCongregational