

A JOYFUL NOISE!

November 2018

Hello my Fellow Travelers,

I have often spoken about time in this space, where has the time gone, what do we do with time. And yet, here I am again using the word, time. Stewardship time is upon us again.

Please know that I am not one to talk about money right up front and stewardship is more than money. I am very respectful to the thought that money is a very private thing. Having spent 20 years in the financial industry; I get it. 20.00 dollars to one person is the equal in perception to 20,000.00 to another. Talking about money is hard, whether it is in one's private home, in a business bottom line, or in a church. With all of that said, it is a bit comforting knowing that we have a balanced budget.

Stewardship is the job of supervising or taking care of something. We are called to be stewards of God's creation and each other. This year's Stewardship Campaign is titled, "What Shall We Bring?" It is more than dollars for the budget. It covers more than the time and the talent that each of us brings to the workings of church.

What shall we bring? Gifts of Presence, Love, Faith and Faithfulness, and Work and Deed. All of us stewards of the Good News. Each of us bringing and giving the gift of the gospel to each other and the broader community.

Please prayerfully consider your role in stewardship. My answer to "What Shall We Bring?" Our very best selves in our actions of time, talent, and treasure, all in the gifts that God has given us.

See you along The Way,

Pastor Patty

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 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 Wulke
- 29 Tom Swanson



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 24 Tad & Margie Peacock

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

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Nancy Reynolds | Ruth Blacklock |
| Pat Forrester | Helen Pickard |
| Hal Bruning | Eric Atkinson |
| Church of the Month: Clare | |

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 Clare 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 NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS

	COFFEE	NURSERY
NOV 4	Deacons	Nancy Call
NOV 11	Soul Sisters	Christy Case
NOV 18	Malia & Barb	Mary Rodriguez
NOV 25	Linda Jenema	Sheila Dinger

HEAD USHER: Sonny Rodriguez

FESTIVAL OF TREES

The Soul Sisters and Christian Education will both be decorating trees for the Festival of Trees in November. We are collecting new/homemade hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves. Donations can be dropped off in the red bucket located in the coat rack area.

COOKIE WALK

Mark your calendar for the annual Cookie Walk on Sunday, December 9th after church. Let us do some of your holiday baking for you! We will be looking for donations of special cookies, candy, breads, etc. A signup sheet will be posted later in November.

ADVENT WORKSHOP & CHURCH DECORATING

The Advent Workshop will be on Sunday, December 2 at 9am. We will be decorating the church and making Advent wreaths and other Christmas decorations. Anyone who would like to help with a craft or just has a good idea, please contact Chris Gehring at 231-651-9630.

We will need help with the decorating—hanging wreaths, putting out the nativity sets, and decorating the trees. After we are done, enjoy a nice brunch put on by Circle I.

Sunday, November 25, we will need some men to help put up the trees after church so they are ready to decorate for our Workshop and Decorating day on December 2!

CIRCLE I

Circle I will meet Wednesday, November 14 at 1:00 at the church. Phyllis Crowell-VanHammen is the hostess. We will be finalizing plans for our December activities.

CALLING ALL QUILTERS AND CRAFTERS

Are you a quilter? A person that likes to sew? Creative, artistic? Looking for some fellowship time? I would like to invite you to come and share your talents. I am looking for help in making four 10X24 (approximate) quilted banners for Advent. Come join the fun on Wednesday November 7th at 2:00 pm as we plan together what these will look like.

Thanks, Pastor Patty

LIBRARY NEWS

What the Eyes Don't See... a page-turning account of the Flint water crisis. Quoting from another reviewer, this book is “good for teaching science, integrity, family values, persistence, importance of good government and the virtues of public service while revealing the depths of depravity and carelessness sometimes found in our actual governments.” Thank you, Sara Moorhead, for the donation.

In Sight of Freedom... is historical fiction written by Ron Robotham, a Benzie County son. Southern Michigan's involvement in the Underground Railroad is well-known. What is less well-known is the use of the Great Lakes, especially Lake Michigan, as a route for transporting escaped slaves to Freedom. Freedom has a double meaning; Freedom is a Cheboygan County ghost town which possibly was the terminus of an Underground Railroad route. This account links four known Abolitionists (ie, Charles Bailey) and their efforts to help in this endeavor.

The dearth of children's books dealing with differences was pointed out. With the help of Patty's librarian friend, the situation is being remedied. The following listed books have been added:

The Skin I'm in...racism

Mixed Me...mixed race

We're Different, We're the Same...physical differences

Special People, Special Ways...disabilities

My Friend, Isabella...Down Syndrome

Everyone Matters...respect for others

In an attempt to make it easier to find these, the name of books and authors of all children's books having to do with differences are listed in the card catalog under “DIVERSITY.”

LOVE INC MANNA FOOD PANTRY NOW OPEN

Love INC of Manistee is excited to announce the completion of our new food pantry with special thanks to United Way and community volunteers that helped us build the shelves.

MANNA is a client choice of food pantry serving the community members of Manistee and Benzie County. A client may come once every 7, 30, or 90 days depending on their eligibility, which is determined at time of intake. Community members in need of food will be served during the MANNA Food Pantry hours: 10am—2pm on Monday and Friday, and Wednesday 1pm—5pm.

The pantry is supplied by our local church partners, Meijer Supply Give, community member donations, and volunteers. Food donations can be made at the Love INC office at 525 Michael St or financial contributions can be mailed to PO Box 28, Manistee MI 49660. Those interested in volunteering can contact Shari or Kathie at the Love INC office (231-723-6613 or shario@loveincmanistee.org).

November 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 12N AA (Barn) 5:00 MRT (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	2 12N LOWV	3
4 10:30 Worship & Church School <i>Daylight Savings</i> 6-7 ACOA (Barn)	5 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Love, INC 5:30-6:30 CLT (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	6 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	7 12N AA (Barn) 2:00 Advent Banners 5:30-6:30 CLT (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	8 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 12N AA (Barn) 4:00 Deacons 5:00 MRT (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	9 12N LOWV	10 8:30 Men's Breakfast @ Papa J's
11 10:30 Worship & Church School Baby Shower and Luncheon 6-7 ACOA (Barn)	12 11:00 Commodities Distribution 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Love, INC 5:30-6:30 CLT (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	13 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 Council 7:00 WAA (Barn)	14 12N AA (Barn) 1:00 Circle I 5:30-6:30 CLT (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	15 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 12N AA (Barn) 5:00 MRT (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	16 12N LOWV	17
18 10:30 Worship & Church School 6-7 ACOA (Barn)	19 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Trustees 5:30-6:30 CLT (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	20 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	21 12N AA (Barn) 5:30-6:30 CLT (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	22 <i>Thanksgiving</i> <i>Church Closed</i>	23 <i>Church Closed</i>	24 Zonta
25 10:30 Worship & Church School 6-7 ACOA (Barn)	26 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Love, INC 5:30-6:30 CLT (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	27 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	28 12N AA (Barn) 5:30-6:30 CLT (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	29	30	

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A Joyful Noise November 2018

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 Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/BenzoniaCongregational