

A JOYFUL NOISE!

September 2018

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

So, it is Monday morning, the 27th of August and I owe all of you and Sam a piece of reflection for the newsletter. Hmm. I am ready to call in some friends and ask what they have on their minds for their articles.

As I sit here contemplating I have a pleasant distraction conversation with one of you. The conversation is about all the exciting things that are going on around here. You see, quite often one of you will stop by and share some exciting thing that is happening here.

Back to my desk I come, and I open an email from Sojourners. It is a daily Voice and Verse that I read as a morning contemplation. I think that the Holy Spirit was holding it until after my conversation, for it kicked me in the shins.

Verse

But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

Matthew 14:30-31

Voice

"Don't listen to those who say, you are taking too big a chance. Michelangelo would have painted the Sistine floor, and it would surely be rubbed out by today. Most important, don't listen when the little voice of fear inside you rears its ugly head..." —Neil Simon

And there it is, my little reflection piece for the newsletter. We are taking big bold steps here. We are going beyond what is comfortable and thinking outside the box. We are inviting people in from the wider community; in for a concert, into worship, into Sunday school, into our inner circles. We are stepping out in faith and putting away the voice of doubt, moving from "Always" to "What If".

Thanks be to God

See you along the Way,

Pastor Patty

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Kay Fischer
- 3 Mary Thompson
- 8 Pete Moss
- 8 Jerry Slater
- 9 Andrew Wolowiec
- 9 Mike Sheets
- 10 Patricia Swanson
- 13 Joyce Barnes
- 15 Samantha Weaver
- 15 Patricia Forrester
- 16 Jennifer Olney
- 18 Muriel Williams
- 18 Barbara Brewer
- 19 Ed Deering
- 19 Cath Kelder
- 21 Ardith Jones
- 22 Gregory Reed
- 29 Nate Stone
- 30 Mary Ellen Wagner

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 Chet & Shirley Jones
- 9 Bill & Cynthia Schnarr
- 11 John & Doris Marshall
- 13 Mark & Kim Weaver
- 19 Randy & Carol Dye

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	Elisabeth
Ryan Anthony	Eric Atkinson

Church of the Month: Cadillac

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 Cadillac 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 SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEERS

	COFFEE	NURSERY
SEP 2	Deacons	Barb Brian
SEP 9	Sunday School	Carol Dye
SEP 16	Christy Case	Agnes Slater
SEP 23	Barb Brian	Chris Gehring
SEP 30	Bev Brouwer	Will Jones

HEAD USHER: Andy Wagner

FROM THE TREASURER

Chris Stone will be gone the month of September. Mary Rodriguez will pay the bills during this time. If you have bills to turn in during September, please put them in Mary's box in the office.

CIRCLE I

Circle I will meet on Thursday, September 20th at 1:00 for our next meeting. We will help prepare the dinner for the Forgotten Man Ministry gathering that is being help at our church that evening. We will also be needing help with the serving and clean-up for this event. Hope to see you there.

FORGOTTEN MAN MINISTRY

Have you heard about Forgotten Man Ministries? Perhaps you have seen their flyers on the table outside the sanctuary on Sunday morning when you get your bulletin. It is their mission to follow in Christ's footsteps by bringing the healing powers of the Great Physician to those incarcerated in Michigan county jails. Their vision: Every departing inmate can start a new life in Jesus Christ, becoming a productive citizen, never returning to jail, and to have a Chaplain-led, Biblically based program in every county jail. They have a county-based banquet every year and this year they have asked us here at First Congregational Church of Benzonia, UCC to be the host site and we have agreed. Carol has been hired to do the catering with the proceeds going to Women's Fellowship. Kay and Bill have sponsored a table. (side note ~ this was the first event, through the church, that I went to last year, with Kay and Bill and a few others) Sad News: though the Bos have sponsored a table they will not be able to make the dinner. Good News: Jim and Chris have agreed to host the table in the Bos absence. Forgotten Man Ministries relies on donations to do their work and as such there will be a free will donation at the end of dinner. Come and hear about their work. Come and hear some testimonies on how lives were changed. See Jim or Kay for more information and come support a good mission.

BRIDGE LESSONS

Would you like to learn to play Bridge? Brush up on your skills? Come and join the fun Wednesdays, starting October 10, 2018, 10:00-1:00. The classes will run for 6 weeks and cost \$50.00 for the lessons and materials. Classes will be held right here at Frist Congregational Church of Benzonia, UCC. You know the address. Linda and Pat Monahan will be your instructors and registration is required. You can call Linda at 708-334-4583 or send her and email at patandlindamonahan@gmail.com . Come to learn, play, have fun, and make new friends.

LOOKING FOR GREETERS

We are looking for greeters in September. Please consider sharing a Sunday morning smile with our friends and guests before the service!

RALLY SUNDAY

Rally Sunday is Sunday, September 9th. This is the official beginning of the Sunday School year. Christian Education will be hosting an ice cream social following worship.



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.

Event Flyers

CLOVERTON
LIVE IN CONCERT



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF BENZONIA, UCC**
901 BARBER STREET BENZONIA, MICHIGAN

TUESDAY, OCT 9
7PM FREE ADMISSION
-LOVE OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN-

DOORS OPEN AT 615PM. ALL SEATS GENERAL ADMISSION.
CALL 231-882-4922 FOR MORE DETAILS AND INFO.
LOVE OFFERING PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT
BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK AND JOY2RIDE.
CLOVERTONMUSIC.COM

Pancake Breakfast



Sunday, September 2nd

9:00 – 10:15

**pancakes, sausage,
fresh fruit, and beverages**

hosted by Christian Education

September 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 10:30 Worship & Church School BIG Sunday 6-7 ACOA (Barn)	3 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 7:00 AA (Barn)	4 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	5 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	6 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 12N AA (Barn) 1:30-4:30 HCCS (Barn) 5:00 MRT (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	7 12N LOWV	8 8:30 Men's Breakfast @ Papa J's
9 10:30 Worship & Church School 6-7 ACOA (Barn)	10 11:00 Commodities Distribution 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 7:00 AA (Barn)	11 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 Council 7:00 WAA (Barn)	12 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	13 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 12N AA (Barn) 1:30-4:30 HCCS (Barn) 4:00 Deacons 5:00 MRT (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	14 12N LOWV	15
16 10:30 Worship & Church School 6-7 ACOA (Barn)	17 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Trustees 5:00 Love, INC 7:00 AA (Barn)	18 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	19 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn) <i>Patty on Vacation</i>	20 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 12N AA (Barn) 1:00 Circle I 1:30-4:30 HCCS (Barn) 4:30-9:00 Forgotten Man Ministry Dinner 5:00 MRT (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	21 12N LOWV	22 Zonta (Barn)
23 10:30 Worship & Church School 6-7 ACOA (Barn)	24 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Love, INC 7:00 AA (Barn)	25 10:00 Yoga (Barn) 12N AA (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	26 12N AA (Barn) Sarah Circle IV 7:00 AA (Barn)	27 9-10:30 AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 12N AA (Barn) 1:30-4:30 HCCS (Barn) 5:00 MRT (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn) 7:30 Choir	28 12N LOWV	29 Ragnar Relay
30 10:30 Worship & Church School 6-7 ACOA (Barn)						

Calendar Notes: While Patty is on vacation from September 19-26, Rev. Tim Murtaugh will be taking over pastoral care items, and Patti Ulrich will be doing pulpit supply.

First Congregational Church
901 Barber Street, P.O. Box 234
Benzonia, MI 49616
Phone: (231) 882-4922

A Joyful Noise September 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

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