

A JOYFUL NOISE!

May 2023

Hello,

In keeping with the flow of the past newsletter writings for 2023, I offer you this.

Jason Locke is a seminarian colleague of mine, and he posted this on Facebook. (I did ask for permission to share with all of you) Jason is not one for technology, preferring the printed word over screen texts. However, with all of the hullabaloo over ChatGPT, Jason decided to find out what it was all about. He asked ChatGPT to create the 10 Commandments based on modern times. He asked specifically for it not be religiously based.

- 1) Thou shalt not perpetuate systems of oppression or marginalization, but instead actively work to dismantle them and promote equity and justice for all.
- 2) Thou shalt not ignore or dismiss the experiences and perspectives of marginalized groups, but instead listen deeply and learn from their wisdom and lived experiences.
- 3) Thou shalt not prioritize individual gain or profit over the well-being of the community and the planet, but instead work towards sustainability and collective well-being.
- 4) Thou shalt cultivate a deep sense of compassion and empathy towards all living beings, recognizing their inherent worth and dignity.
- 5) Thou shalt not engage in harmful or destructive behaviors towards oneself or others, but instead prioritize physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being.
- 6) Thou shalt continuously seek knowledge, growth, and learning, embracing new ideas and perspectives with curiosity and openness.
- 7) Thou shalt not engage in dishonest or deceitful practices in one's personal or professional life, but instead cultivate a spirit of honesty and transparency in all dealings.
- 8) Thou shalt actively work towards building bridges and promoting understanding and collaboration between diverse individuals and communities.
- 9) Thou shalt use one's power and privilege to uplift and empower those who have been historically marginalized or oppressed.
- 10) Thou shalt recognize the interconnectedness of all beings and the environment, and work toward creating a more just, equitable, and sustainable world for all.

We tend to think that the Biblical 10 Commandments are out a bit outdated. Really, how many of us truly think about killing someone else on any given day or how many of us do take the Lord's name in vain or have false idols without second thought?

Perhaps we can take a few minutes each day to contemplate living into being the best human being that we can be.

Happy Thinking,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor Patty". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Pastor" and last name "Patty" clearly distinguishable.

Pastor Patty

Remember in Your Prayers

Nancy Reynolds	Maddie	Martin and Stacy
Doris Marshall	AJ	Dixie
Barbara	Russ	Sue
Philip Lyman	Denise	Family and Friends of Rev. Bob McQuilken
Misha	Kathy S.	Family and Friends of Nancy Lewis Catton
Greg Lowry	Joel	Family and Friends of Ed Grafius
	Jess	



May Birthdays

1	Dick Henry
6	Trevor Danford
7	Wade Peacock
7	Brianna Brian
9	Taylor Johnson
12	Katrina Smith
15	Joanne Appelhof
25	Steve Stephens
25	Bill Bos
26	Sabra Danford
26	Rob Wolowiec
27	Kristine Johnson
27	Doug Workman
30	Lawrence Czap



UCC Church of the Month

As part of our continuing efforts to work together with our fellow United Northern Association churches as a community of faith, we invite you to pray this month for the ongoing mission and ministries of New Waves, Traverse City.

Flowers

If you would like to supply flowers for the altar, please sign up on the bulletin board or contact the church office. You may then bring in your own flowers or donate \$30 to the church flower fund for an arrangement to be purchased from Victoria's Floral.



Cards and Notes



Check out all our notes on the bulletin board!

*Just want to say Thank You so much for the snacks you send. I appreciate it so much and I save your cards. I appreciated the message of the Lord. I do Bible studies every day and it is such a blessing to have the Lord to be a part of me.
~ Kaleb, Benzie County Corrections*



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

Web Links

Michigan Conference News: michucc.org

United Northern Association Facebook Page:
facebook.com/UnitedNorthernAssociationUCC

Church Facebook Page: facebook.com/BenzoniaCongregational

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOGrpQiU7ggXa7tT6vhTHRw>

Instagram: [first_congregational_benzonia](https://www.instagram.com/first_congregational_benzonia)



Volunteers Coffee Hour

May 7	Jane Gary
May 14	Jo Bahry
May 21	Joan Harwood & Cleo Finch
May 28	Women's Fellowship— Graduation





For our BACN donations this month, we are trying to collect **Laundry Products**. Help us help those in need by participating in our ongoing **Bring In Groceries** program.



Sunday May 28
Pentecost
Please wear red.



Benzie Central Concerts

Anyone that would like to meet in the lobby of the Benzie Central Auditorium to support the youth

Spring Pops (Choir) concert May 11th

Spring Band concert May 18th

Both start at 7 PM

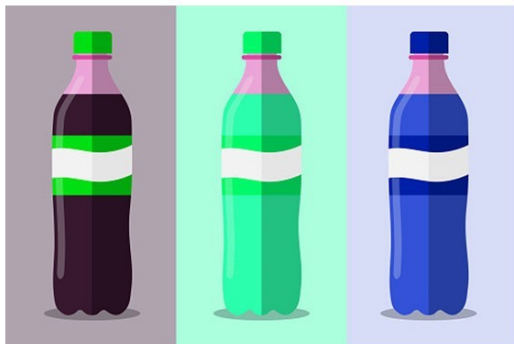


ECHO His Love
EVERYDAY CHRISTIANS HELPING OTHERS

Is looking for volunteers, please contact them at 231.723.6613

2023 Youth Sunday School Service Project

Returnable Bottles & Cans Collection



Funds raised will purchase new winter boots for the Benzie County Baby Pantry

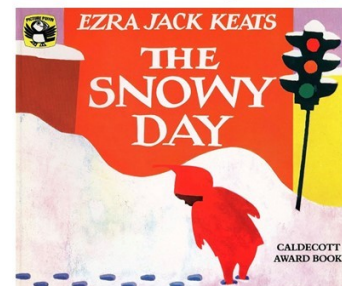
Drop off at church or contact Beth at 231 645 2164 for pickup arrangements

#bootsforbabies



2023 Festival of Trees

The Snowy Day



COLLECTING THROUGH SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH

The Snowy Day

- Board Book
- Paperback
- Hardcover

Snow Suits and Snow Pants

- Snow Suits (Sizes 3 months – 24 months)
- Snow Pants (Sizes 2 T – Kids XL)

Socks for Students
Ankle Socks for Benzie
County Students



SIZES

2T-3T through Men's 9-12

Everything in Between

Supporting

Father Fred Foundation

Now through July 30th

CPR Training



Come to the CPR Training Day for information and compression training at no cost. CPR certification is available for \$20. This is open to everyone that thinks they will ever need to know CPR. Caregivers, babysitters, scouts, volunteers, over all good people.

Tim O'Connor from heartbeatllc.com will be the instructor.

The class will be on **May 13th from 9 am to 12 noon**. Registration is required. Please call the church office at 882-4922. **Deadline for sign up is May 1st.**

Beyond your name, please let us know if you will want to be certified.

Happy Mother's Day



May Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 23.
See you at 5 PM.



Attic Treasures & Classic Junk Sale

Saturday, May 27
8:00am - 2:00pm

First Congregational Church of Benzonia, UCC
901 Barber Street, Benzonia

you'll find everything you
never knew you needed



Begin collecting May 1st, Call the Office with questions

May 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Pastor Patty Vacation 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5-6:30 Centra Wellness (Barn) 7 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 AA (Barn)	2 Pastor Patty Vacation 12N AA (Barn)? 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	3 Pastor Patty Vacation 12N AA (Barn) 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	4 Pastor Patty Vacation 12N AA (Barn)? 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn)	5 Pastor Patty Vacation 12N AA (Barn) 7 PM AA (Barn)	6 Pastor Patty Vacation
7 Pastor Patty Vacation 10:30am Worship with Rev. Dr. Jeff Rhodes BIG Sunday Communion 6-8 ACOA (Barn)	8 9:00 Trustees 11 Commodities 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5-6:30 Centra Wellness (Barn) 7 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 AA (Barn)	9 Pastor Patty Out of Office 12N AA (Barn)? 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	10 12N AA (Barn) 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	11 9:30-11:30 Personal Use (Fellowship Hall) 12N AA (Barn)? 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 5:00 Deacons 7:00 NA (Barn)	12 12N AA (Barn) 7 PM AA (Barn)	13 8:30 Men's Breakfast @ Papa J's 9-12 CPR Training
14 Mother's Day 10:30am Worship 6-8 ACOA (Barn)	15 Pastor Patty Out of Office 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5-6:30 Centra Wellness (Barn) 7 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 AA (Barn)	16 Pastor Patty Out of Office 12N AA (Barn)? 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	17 Pastor Patty Out of Office 12N AA (Barn) 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	18 Pastor Patty Out of Office 12N AA (Barn)? 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn)	19 12N AA (Barn) 7 PM AA (Barn)	20
21 10:30am Worship 12:00 Christian Education 6-8 ACOA (Barn)	22 Diane Vacation 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge Club 5-6:30 Centra Wellness (Barn) 7 pm Boy Scouts	23 Diane Vacation 12N AA (Barn)? 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 5:00 Council 7:00 WAA (Barn)	24 Diane Vacation 12N AA (Barn) 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)	25 12N AA (Barn)? 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 7:00 NA (Barn)	26 12N AA (Barn) 7 PM AA (Barn)	27 8-2 Attic Treasure Sale
28 Pentecost 10:30am Worship Graduation Sunday 6-8 ACOA (Barn)	29 Memorial Day Office Closed 12N AA (Barn) 12-5 Bridge 5-6:30 Centra Wellness (Barn) 7 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 AA (Barn)	30 12N AA (Barn)? 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 7:00 WAA (Barn)	31 12N AA (Barn) 3-6 Tutoring (Barn) 7:00 AA (Barn)			

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

A Joyful Noise May 2023

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BENZONIA UCC
BENZONIA, MICHIGAN



Office Phone: 231-882-4922
Office Hours: M—F 9am—Noon
Office Email: secretary@benzoniacongregational.org
Our Website: <http://www.benzoniacongregational.org>
Our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/BenzoniaCongregational