

A Joyful Noise!

August 2025

Hi,

August. Wow. The summer is moving along. How is it going for you? Have you spent much time with the contemplative spiritual practices that we have talked about?

This month I would like to offer Lectio Divina. This is a fancy Latin term for reading and discerning. It really is not all that hard to do; however, it does take doing this with someone else.

To engage in Lectio Divina you will need a comfortable place, a friend, and your favorite version of the bible. You and your friend(s) get comfortable and open your bibles or bible app. This can be done with a random reading, just open the bible, drop your finger on the page and read that section. Yes, you'll have to find the start and the finish, but it is random. The other way is to be specific, open the bible to your favorite passage.

One of you reads the passage out loud. Sit and think about it for a few minutes. Really, a few minutes not seconds. When time has passed, share a word that speaks to you. Just a word – don't over work it. Sit with the possibility of no immediate resolution. Then the other person reads the same passage aloud. Again, sit with it. Contemplate. After a few minutes, share a group of words or thoughts that move you. Be vulnerable – be honest. Read it a third time aloud, sit with it, and then have an open conversation.

This is a wonderful way to accomplish several things. When we hear a different voice, we hear things differently. When we engage with other perspectives, we hear things differently. This is a way to hear how someone else may engage with a particular passage. When we share scripture with another person, it opens up the possibility of a deeper understanding and relationship.

“A way of reading that prevents us from turning scripture on its head and using it to justify ourselves like that pathetic religion scholar was trying to do with Jesus. A way of reading that abandons the attempt to take control of the text as if it were helpless without our help. A way of reading that refuses to be reduced to just reading but intends the living of the text, listening and responding to the voices of that ‘so great a cloud of witness’ “ – Eugene Peterson, *Eat This Book*, pg. 90.

So, grab a friend or three, a good beverage, a comfortable spot, and start engaging deeply with our sacred text.

Happy reading,

Pastor Patty

Barbara, Mike S., Bethany, Mike, Diana, Harrison,
Cameron, Allegría & family, the Osborn family,
family & friends of
Arlie "Mike" Frank Kaskinen,

Prayers For...

Those who have lost loved ones.

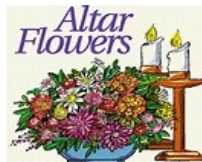


UCC Church of the Month

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
First Congregational Church of Harrison UCC

Flowers

If you need the assistance of the church for Altar Flowers, please call the office **231-882-4922**.



For our **B.I.G.** donations this month,
we are collecting
hot beverages.

Web Links

Michigan Conference News: michucc.org

Church Facebook Page:
facebook.com/BenzoniaCongregational

United Northern Association Facebook Page:
facebook.com/UnitedNorthernAssociationUCC

Church YouTube Page:
<https://www.youtube.com/@FirstCongregationalBenzoniaUCC>

Church Instagram Page: @First_Congregational_Benzonia



August Birthdays

- 1 Andrea Polhamus
- 3 Roger Weil
- 4 Toni Dye
- 6 Nena Girven
- 7 Theodore Reed
- 9 Dawn Olney
- 9 Clara Reed
- 11 Amy Winters
- 15 Peter Jenema
- 15 Toni Cadena
- 15 Lisa Sauer
- 16 Hailey Lowry
- 18 Linda Nugent
- 20 Sara Moorhead
- 20 Andy Wagner
- 20 Barb Myers
- 21 Ruth Catton
- 26 Shelley Thompson



August Anniversaries

- 17 Mary and Doug Rodriguez
- 21 Agnes and Jerry Slater
- 23 Pat and Earl Schopp

Coffee Hour Hosts

- Aug. 3** Kay Bos
- Aug. 10** Ruth Catton Day
- Aug. 17** Carolina Tabora
- Aug. 24** Church Picnic
- Aug. 31** Jane Gary



Benzie Central Schools will be Providing Summer Meals



Summer Meal Service Locations

FREE for all students 18 and under!

Meal Service Locations

Lake Ann Elementary
19375 Bronson Lake Rd
Interlochen, MI 49643

Dates & Times

June 23 – August 22, 2025
Monday thru Friday

Breakfast 8am-9am
Lunch 11:30am-12:30pm

CLOSED
July 4th for the holiday

SUMMER MEALS

DETAILS

- Meals are only available during service times
- 1 breakfast & 1 Lunch per child each day
- Children must be present
- Meals must be consumed on site



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CALL TO MEETING: 2025 Michigan Conference Annual Meeting October 3-4, 2025

REGISTER NOW!!

Partial and full scholarships for clergy and delegate registrations are available with preapproval (does not include lodging)

Individuals or churches in need of assistance, please contact Lisa Soulliere before August 30, 2025.

Discounted lodging is available at the Westin in a block of hotel rooms for the Michigan Conference UCC until September 5, 2025.



Annual Meeting
October 3-4, 2025

Two Day Event

The Westin
Southfield Detroit





We are collecting the following in August for BACN

- Packaged Coffee
- Packaged Tea
- Packaged Hot Cocoa

All Donations Can Be Dropped Off In The Shopping Cart



Soup & Conversation

United Church of Christ 101

No prerequisites required!

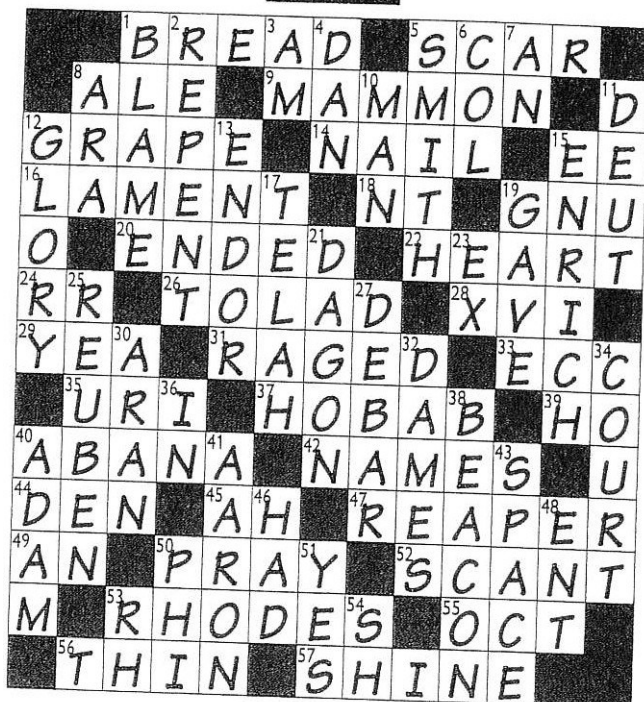


WHEN: 6 PM on Wednesdays
Aug 6 & 20 and Sept 3 & 17



Crossword Key for July

24



It's time to celebrate!! Ruth Catton has a birthday this month and we'd like to celebrate her!! Come and celebrate Ruth's birthday on Sunday, August 10, after worship. That is not Ruth's actual birthday, but we are celebrating it early. Come & share your stories of Ruth.

August 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 12pm WAA (Barn) 7pm AA (Barn)	2 8:30am Men's Breakfast 9am Tutoring
3 BIG Sunday 10:30am Worship & Communion	4 12pm Bridge 5pm SMART (Barn) 7pm AA (Barn)	5 10am Tutoring (Barn) 7pm WAA (Barn)	6 10am Tutoring (Barn) 6pm Soup & Conversation 7pm AA (Barn)	7 9am Tutoring 5pm AA (Barn) 7pm NA (Barn)	8 12pm WAA (Barn) 7pm AA (Barn)	9 9am Tutoring
10 9:30am Deacon's 10:30am Worship with Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel	11 9am Trustees 12pm Bridge 5pm SMART (Barn) 7pm AA (Barn)	12 10am Tutoring (Barn) 7pm WAA (Barn)	13 10am Tutoring (Barn) 7pm AA (Barn)	14 9am Tutoring 5pm AA (Barn) 7pm NA (Barn)	15 12pm WAA 7pm AA (Barn)	16 9am Tutoring
17 9:30am Christian Ed 10:30am Worship	18 12pm Bridge 5pm SMART (Barn) 7pm AA (Barn)	19 10am Tutoring (Barn) 5pm Council 7pm WAA (Barn)	20 10am Tutoring (Barn) 6pm Soup & Conversation 7pm AA (Barn)	21 9am Tutoring 5pm AA (Barn) 7pm NA (Barn)	22 12pm WAA 7pm AA (Barn)	23 9am Tutoring
24 10:30am Worship Church Picnic	25 12pm Bridge 5pm SMART (Barn) 7pm AA (Barn)	26 10am Tutoring (Barn) 7pm AA (Barn)	27 10am Tutoring (Barn) 7pm AA (Barn)	28 9am Tutoring 5pm AA (Barn) 7pm NA (Barn)	29 12pm WAA 7pm AA (Barn)	30 9am Tutoring
31 10:30am Worship						

ACROSS

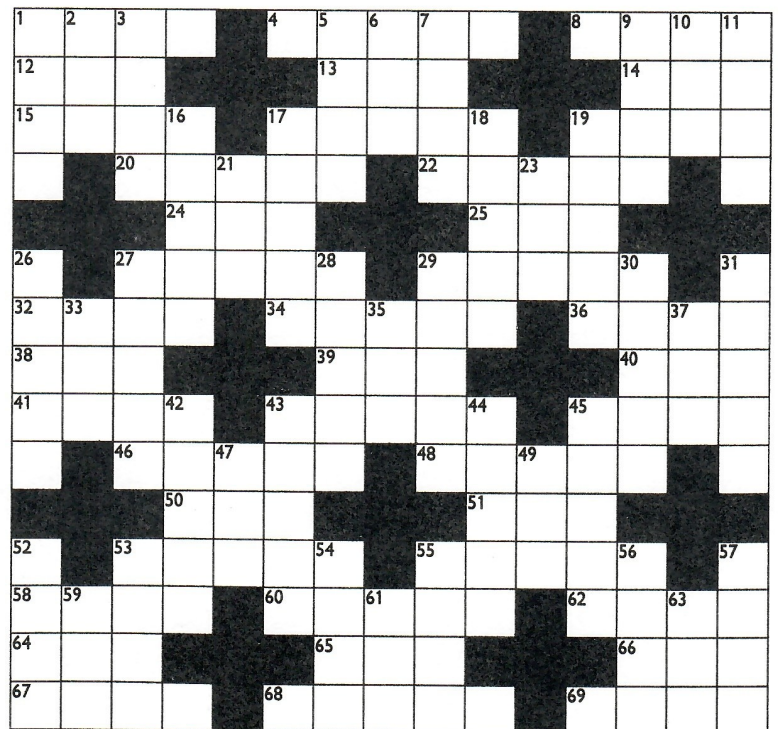
- 1 Son of Roboam
Matt. 1:7
- 4 "I am Alpha and
___,"
- 8 "For jealousy is
the ___ of a man."
Prov. 6:34
- 12 "For the ___ is
withered away,"
Isa. 15:6
- 13 "And all that
handle the ___,"
Ezek. 27:29
- 14 Hebrew letter that
follows Lamed
- 15 "For this ___ is
mount Sinai in
Arabia,"
Gal. 4:25
- 17 Son of Abinoam
Judg. 5:1
- 19 Ancient capital
- 20 Harlot that hid
spies at Jericho
- 22 "In that day a
man shall cast his
idols... to the ___"
Isa. 2:20
- 24 35th book of the
Old Testament
(abbr.)
- 25 Taken from Adam
to create Eve
- 27 Papers
- 29 Son of Beriah
Gen. 46:17
- 32 Son of Shem
Gen. 10:22
- 34 "Persia, Ethiopia,
and ___ with
them," Ezek. 38:5
- 36 Gennesaret for
example
- 38 Mountain where
the Lord spoke
unto Moses and
Aaron
Num. 20:23
- 39 25th book of the
Bible (abbr.)

- 40 Missing in Action
(abbr.)
- 41 One of the wives
of Esau Gen. 36:2
- 43 Admonishes
- 45 Summer Scout
activity
- 46 "But rather
rejoice, because
your ___ are writ-
ten in heaven."
Luke 10:20
- 48 A musical term
that occurs 71
times in Psalm
- 50 Friend
- 51 Used for
anointing
- 53 Traditional
forbidden fruit
- 55 "That we went
into the province
of ___" Ezra 5:8
- 58 Sacred
- 60 Forbidden by 8th
commandment
- 62 Fibrous food
- 64 "I AM that ___"
(2 words)
- 65 106 to Caesar
- 66 Wilderness
known as Kadesh
Num. 33:36
- 67 To remain
- 68 Place for books
- 69 Site of Christ's
first miracle

DOWN

- 1 The most wicked
of the kings of
Northern Israel
- 2 "And David put
his hand in his
___, and took
thence a stone,"
1 Sam. 17:49
- 3 2nd Hebrew
month
- 5 Son of Lot's
eldest daughter
Gen. 19:37

- 6 "Hear my prayer,
O God; give ___ to
the words of my
mouth."
Psalm 54:2
- 7 Metric weight
- 9 30th book of the
Bible
- 10 Precious stone
- 11 Beth-___: on the
border of Asher
Josh. 19:24-31
- 16 Son of Shema
1 Chron. 2:44
- 17 Site of a big
tower
- 18 Asian Country
- 19 Resist authority
- 21 37th book of the
Old Testament
(abbr.)
- 23 Library (abbr.)
- 26 Hodiah's brother
1 Chron. 4:19
- 27 "The cloud rested
in the wilderness
of ___,"
Num. 10:12
- 28 "And at midnight
Paul and ___
prayed,"
Acts 16:25
- 29 Church songs
- 30 Where Samuel
was buried
1 Sam. 28:3
- 31 Gathers the crop
- 33 "And he shall rule
them with a ___ of
iron," Rev. 2:27
- 35 The Judgement _
- 37 Girl's name
- 42 "___ is that people,
whose God is the
Lord."
Psalm 144:15
- 43 "Ye draw water
out of the ___ of
salvation."
Isa. 12:3
- 44 Capital of 18
Down
- 45 Son of Jephunneh
Num. 14:30
- 47 Used to find
directions
- 49 Bottle top
- 52 "For unto you is
born ___ day in the
city of David a
Saviour,"
Luke 2:11
- 53 ___ Mater
- 54 To draw on glass
- 55 Prison
- 56 Zimri slew Elah
in his house
1 Kgs. 16:8-10
- 57 A prophetess
Luke 2:36
- 59 Breakfast grain
- 61 Mother of all
- 63 Hebrew letter that
looks like a Y
Psalm 119



First Congregational Church of Benzonia UCC
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First Congregational Church Of Benzonia UCC
Benzonia, MICHIGAN



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