

A Joyful Noise!

March 2026

Speak with the Earth and it Will Teach You— A Field Guide to the Bible

I first saw this book at the State conference last October in the display of the materials for the Mitten Project and I fell in love with it. Author Daniel Cooperrider, a UCC minister, has combined his knowledge of scripture with his love for the natural world in a very readable treatise on both, and those of us who love our outdoors here in Michigan will enjoy (and learn a lot) from his “field guide.”

The prologue explores the background of the concept of Gods two books: that of scripture and that of nature, and how they are meant to be used together. In the short essays that follow, he focuses on the creation elements of water, fire, earth, and air, relating them to rivers, mountains, trees, and clouds and ties these concepts to scripture in a way that is both educational and enjoyable.

This is a very readable book that belongs on everyone’s bookshelf. I’ve already ordered my own copy. If you have kids and grandkids that need to be weaned away from their screens, the material here will give you the background to get them out and observing!

Guest Columnist – Jo Bahry

Barbara, Paula, Anna, Chris L., Rodney, Robin,
Elijah; family & friends of Delores Jones; family &
friends of Hank Crooks.

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

1st Congregational Church of Alpena UCC

Flowers

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

BIG

For our **B.I.G.** donations this month,
we are collecting **Personal Care Items**
benefitting **BACN.**

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: [@benzoniuacc](https://www.instagram.com/benzoniaucc)



Happy Birthday



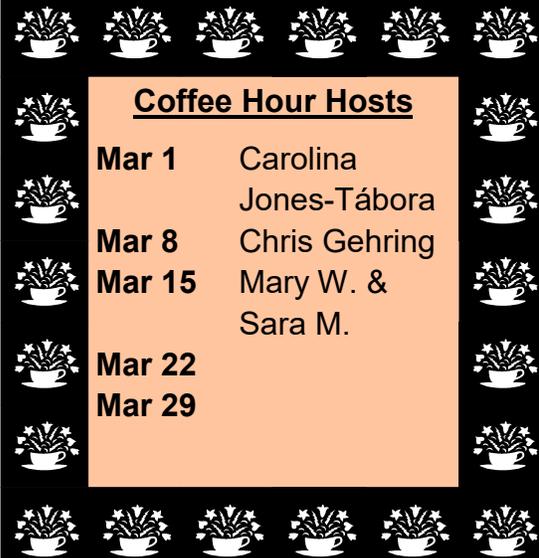
- 1 Tim Brian
- 1 Christine Gehring
- 2 Barry Hahn
- 3 Liam Jones
- 3 John Riegler
- 3 Brandon Sauer
- 5 Brent Strom
- 6 Calvin Smith
- 6 Carson Case
- 7 Beau Wagner
- 8 Barry Hahn
- 9 Jo Bahry
- 9 Ayden Webb
- 10 Belle Brown
- 11 Bev Brouwer
- 12 Jeffrey Maddock
- 15 Emily Pagan
- 16 Chantelle Jones
- 17 Ron Girven
- 18 Hunter Brian
- 22 Maria Wolowiec
- 22 Caleb Case
- 24 Carol Davidson
- 26 Judy Herban
- 29 Carol Dye



- 26 Rob and Debra Rafferty

Coffee Hour Hosts

- Mar 1 Carolina Jones-Tábora
- Mar 8 Chris Gehring
- Mar 15 Mary W. & Sara M.
- Mar 22
- Mar 29



It's the end of an era!

We are saying good-bye to the *Pilgrim Hymnal* to make way for the new *Worship and Rejoice Hymnal*.

Most of the *Pilgrim Hymnals* have dedications on the inside cover.

Below is a list of those inscriptions.

We are offering these hymnals to anyone who might be interested in having one (or several). If you are captivated by history, one pulls on your heart strings, or you'd like to give a hymnal a home, please contact the church office by phone or email by **March 15th.**

- In memory of Herman & Eva Blecker by Harry H. Blecker
In memory of Charles K. Bosscher by Ken & Esther Bosscher
In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Wm. E. Brumels, parents of Wm. D Brumels, by William & Dorothy Brumels
In memory of Chauncey and Rose Call by Sandborn and Marion Eldridge
In memory of Chauncey and Rose Call by Vi and Ed Worden
In memory of Leonard L. Case Sr. and Florence Martindale Ellis Case by Marietta L. Case Nelson
In memory of Louis W. Case by Frances Case
In memory of Bill and Wendy Cole by Linda C. Jenema
In memory of Fred M. Coulter by Clayton J. Lanning
In memory of Ward J. Creech by Constance C. Creech
In memory of Ward J. Creech by Torrence & Arlene Creech
In memory of Ella Culver by Matilda Core
In memory of Mr. & Mrs. John DeWaard by William & Dorothy Brumels
In memory of Jean & Wallace W. Edwards by Vera C. & Austin R. Wolfe
In memory of Ruby (Nutting) & David W. Edwards by Jean & Wallace W. Edwards
In memory of Kenneth H. Ehman by Harlow Ehman and children
In memory of Marguerite J. Ehman by Harlow Ehman and children
In memory of Vesta Ehman by Ted and Elizabeth Ehman
In memory of Floyd Hall from Mr. and Mrs. John McBroom and family, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Hall and family, and Eva Hall
In memory of Lloyd (Duke) Haswell by Charles & Mary Hannah Cruse
In memory of Lloyd (Duke) Haswell by Thelma Haswell
In memory of Dr. Elsworth Haynes by Emily J. Haynes
In memory of Walter Heath by Ella Heath
In memory of Auberon and Bertha Herbert by Ruth Blacklock and family
In memory of Paul E. Herbert by Doris Herbert & Sons
In memory of Mrs. Alice Johnson
In memory of Our Parents by Chester & Ruth Kiefhaber
In memory of Mrs. Maude Eastman King by Edward and Muriel Mills
In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Orville LaGuire by Edward & Muriel Mills
In memory of John & Ada Lipp by Ruth Blacklock and Family
In memory of Neil Maddock by Ray and Margaret Hansen
In memory of Erston V. Miller by Rosemary Miller
In memory of Joseph Monroe by Ruth Blacklock and family

In memory of Justin & Viola Numan by George & Justine Peters
In memory of Bessie Pasfield by Hilda Applehof
In memory of Anton & Harriet Peters by George & Justine Peters
In memory of Bill Pettitt by his parents, Newman and Dorothy Pettitt
In memory of Florence and Jay Pettitt Sr. by Ruth and Jay Pettitt
In memory of Ellen Rehard by John Rehard
In memory of The Rev. A. Greig Ritchie by Marguerite C. Ritchie
In memory of Hermie and Derryl Rockwell by Jerry and Joan Richardson
In memory of Agnes and Gus Rogers by their daughters
In memory of Paul A. Schalm by Neva G. Schalm
In memory of The Rev. Ormund A. Schulz by Elsa K. Schulz
In memory of Floe E. Sheppard by Henry & Ila Mae Hanel
In memory of Martin Smeltzer
In memory of my husband, Wilbur H. Smith, by Doris M. Smith
In memory of George F. Snell by Laura A. Snell
In memory of Her Grandson, Randy Snell, by Laura A. Snell
In memory of Dr. & Mrs. O. L. Stock by Frances & Richard Stock
In memory of Everett (Jimmy) Thompson by Mrs. Everett (Helen) Thompson & Rev. and Mrs. Steven Thompson & family
In memory of Rev. O.J.P. and Louse (sic) Wetklo by Harry H. Blecker
In memory of Myra Wildt by Friends
In memory of Myra Wildt by Robert & Dorothy Richards
In memory of Gertrude Snow Wolfe (grandmother) by Helen Wolfe Dewey
In memory of Gertrude S. and Arthur L. Wolfe by Jean and Wallace W. Edwards
In memory of Hugh Campbell Wolfe by Helen Wolfe Dewey
In memory of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Woodward
In memory of Mary Woodward by Friends & Relatives
In memory of Verna Woodward by Friends & Relatives
In memory of Charles & Pearl Worden by Bill and Gayle Hayes
In memory of Charles & Pearl Worden by Vi and Ed Worden
Presented by Van and Florence Bixby in honor of Robert and Dorothy Richards
Presented by Henry & Ila Mae Hanel honoring their 3 children
Presented by Harold & Sarah Johnson
Presented by Glenn and Marian Larson
Presented by Inez B. Zaring

B.I.G for March

Personal Care Items

Shampoo and Conditioner

Deodorant

Body Wash

Razors

Lotion

Shaving Cream/Gel

Feminine Hygiene Products

Foot Powder

Toothpaste

Soap

And More...

All Items Collected Support

BACN

Sponsored by Outreach

Circle 1 will meet
Wed., March 18 @
1:00 at the
church. We will
review the projects
we did last year
and decide what
our projects will be
this year. Chris
Stone will be the
hostess.

Women's Fellowship will have their first meeting on Wed., March 4 @ 1:00 at the church. We will be deciding on the recipient of the spring Thank-Offering which is our global offering. We will also review some of our serving pieces and decide what we need to keep. If we have time, we will play some card games, if anyone has a suggestion or a favorite, let us know or bring it along. We will have some regular decks of cards, Uno and cribbage boards



March Madness is BACK!

The Annual FCCB UCC NCAA Men's
Basketball Pool will be starting
Thursday, March 19th!

Stay tuned for more details!

You Can



Nourish hope
in our
community



March 5 - 7
10 am - 5 pm

Honor Family
Market

Family Fare
Benzonia

Family Fare
Frankfort

Save A Lot
Benzonia

Benzie Area Christian Neighbors (**BACN**) will hold their Winter Food Drive March 5 – 7 from 10 am – 5 pm. They're collecting foods to warm up: canned pasta, canned chicken and tuna, soup, peanut butter and jelly, saltine crackers and boxed cereal. Volunteers collecting food will be stationed at Family Fare-Frankfort, Honor Family Market, Save A Lot and Family Fare-Benzonia. Interested in helping with the food drive? Visit benziebacn.org/volunteer to learn more.

40 DAYS OF GIVING

40 DAYS OF LENT



Your donations benefit
BACN

Bags are available
in Fellowship Hall
should you need
them.

Soup & Conversation
Lenten Reflections



Wednesdays
Feb 4, 18, Mar 4, 18
6:00 pm

Crossword Key for February

31

1	W	H	A	L	E		5	A	H	A		8	V	A	U	L	T				
	I		12	D	A	N		13	R	O	E		14	A	S	K		H			
15	D	O		16	W	O	R	E		18	N	A	S	A		21	C	O			
22	O	W	N		23		24	S	I	T		25	E	R	E		26	B	A	R	
27	W	E	A	K		28		29	B	A	R	A	K		31	H	E	W	N		
36	S	P	E	N	D	S		38	T		39	S	I	G	H	T	S		40	41	
42	E							43	E	I	G	H	T	H	S				44	H	I
45	C	A	N	A	A	N		46	M		48	E	A	S	T	E	R		49	50	
55	A	N	O	N		56		57	G	I	H	O	N		58		59	W	E	L	L
62	S	U	N		63	J	O	B		64	R	E	V		65		66	S	E	A	
67	A	N		68	C	O	D	E		69	C	H	A	T		70		71	O	K	
77	H	A	R	A	N		78	H	I	S		79	N	O	A	H	S				

**The Peace and Justice Committee of
Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church**

**has asked for assistance in collecting hygiene items for
H2A seasonal farm workers when they return here this summer.**

**We are collecting the following items throughout March
to donate to them:**

- Shampoo**
- Shaving Cream**
- Toothpaste**
- Deodorant**

**The majority of the seasonal workers they support are men,
so masculine products are preferred.**

March 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 BIG Sunday 10:30am Worship/ Communion	2 7pm AA (Barn) 7pm Boy Scouts	3 5pm Community Family Mentors (Barn) 5:30pm Single MOMM 7pm WAA (Barn)	4 6pm Soup & Conversation 7pm AA (Barn)	5 10:30am Women's Radiant Qigong (Barn) 5pm AA (Barn) 7pm NA (Barn)	6 12pm WAA (Barn) 7pm AA (Barn)	7 8:30am Men's Breakfast Platte River Inn
8 9:30am Deacons 10:30am Worship	9 11am Commodities Distribution 5:30pm Single MOMM 7pm AA (Barn) 7pm Boy Scouts	10 5pm Community Family Mentors (Barn) 5:30pm Single MOMM 7pm WAA (Barn)	11 7pm AA (Barn)	12 10:30am Women's Radiant Qigong (Barn) 5pm AA (Barn) 7pm NA (Barn)	13 12pm WAA (Barn) 7pm AA (Barn)	14
15 9:30am Christian Ed 10:30am Worship	16 9am Trustees 7pm AA (Barn) 7pm Boy Scouts Paige—vacation	17 5pm Community Family Mentors (Barn) 5pm council 7pm WAA (Barn) Paige— vacation	18 8am Benzie Cty Community Chest 6pm Soup & Conversation 7pm AA (Barn) Paige—vacation	19 10:30am Women's Radiant Qigong (Barn) 5pm AA (Barn) 7pm NA (Barn) Paige—vacation	20 12pm WAA (Barn) 7pm AA (Barn) Paige—vacation	21 8:30am Benzie Zonta (Barn)
22 10:30am Worship	23 7pm AA (Barn) 7pm Boy Scouts	24 5:30pm Single MOMM 7pm WAA (Barn)	25 7pm AA (Barn)	26 10:30am Women's Radiant Qigong (Barn) 5pm AA (Barn) 7pm NA (Barn)	27 12pm WAA 7pm AA (Barn)	28
29 10:30am Worship	30 7pm AA (Barn) 7pm Boy Scouts	31 7pm WAA (Barn)				

First Congregational Church of Benzonia UCC
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A Joyful Noise!

First Congregational Church Of Benzonia UCC
Benzonia, MICHIGAN



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