

First Congregational Church UCC  
est. April 29, 1856

February 2020

# Pilgrim's Echo



## INVITE – WELCOME – CONNECT

Yesterday we had a great annual congregation meeting. Thanks to all those who have served during the past year and looking forward to working with all the committees, boards and groups. Now we prepare to move forward with even more exciting things in 2020. In order to remain a vital and growing church it is important to prayerfully keep in mind three things:

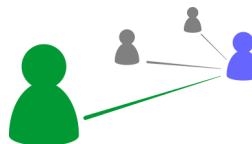
**INVITE** – Studies show that 80% of the new people who become involved in a church were first invited by a relative or friend. Prayerfully consider who you might invite or bring along with you to church or church activities. It doesn't have to be a Sunday. It could be to our Wednesday meal and worship or any activity or group.

**WELCOME** - Secondly it is important to give an extravagant welcome to everyone but especially to guests in worship and those who participate in groups or activities. Introduce yourself share your journeys of joy you have experienced here. I think we do a good job in this area but sometimes we forget and get so caught up in our conversations with long time friends that we fail to take the time necessary to make new people feel welcome.

**CONNECT** – Studies also show that unless new people connect and develop relationships with others in the church family, they will gradually stop coming to worship and church activities. It all starts with learning their names and listen to some of the stories they might share about their family, work or other interests. You might find something in common to enjoy together. The bottom line is building new relationships with new people.

New groups, studies, activities or service projects tend to be the best way of making more room for more people to build new relationships – so if you have a new idea for something new share it with me or some of the leaders and see if it can't become a reality. One of the things happening here, is how the existing groups and activities are welcoming of new people.

Serving God through service to others,  
Pastor Henry C. Brinker



### Church Staff:

*Pastor,*  
Reverend Henry C. Brinker

*Office Administrator,*  
Cathy DeWulf

*Office Assistant & Newsletter,*  
Barb Schuster

*Choir Director,*  
Bette Carrothers

*Organist,*  
Richard Wolf

*Child Care,*  
Beth Robbins

*Custodian,*  
Ralph Dunsmore

### Church Council:

Moderator - Greg Harmon

Vice Moderator - Ed Kammer

Clerk - Donna Dunsmore

Treasurer - Bonnie Kandler

Diaconate Chair - Barb Schuster

Trustees Chair - Chuck Maddix

Religious Ed - Sandra Wasilina

Ushers - Richard Kordas

Missions - Phyllis Maddix,  
Barb MacDonald

Decorating - Sherry Cole

Technology Team - Dennis Halstead

Music Chair - Jim Parsons

Dorcas Circle - Anna Cratsenburg

G.L.E.E. - Marge Reh, Bev Reno

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# ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

## Weekly Food, Fellowship and Worship

Every Wednesday evening with  
a meal at 6:00 p.m.

A \$5.00 donation is suggested.  
A casual worship service with  
communion led by Pastor  
Brinker begins at 7 p.m.

Reservations are encouraged.

Sign up in the fellowship hall,  
call the office: (586) 725-0909  
or email: [fccnb@att.net](mailto:fccnb@att.net) by 10  
a.m. Wednesdays.



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*Please welcome the Southeast  
Michigan Deaf Community  
Ministry to our **January 5th**  
communion service at 10:15a.*

*For information on learning  
**American Sign Language**,  
go to their website  
[www.asldeafined.com](http://www.asldeafined.com)*

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**Coffee with the Pastor** on  
Thursday mornings from  
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Come in and have a cup of  
coffee and visit with Pastor  
Brinker.  
Evening hours coming soon!

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## 2020 Organizational Meeting Schedule

**Diaconate** at regular meeting - February 4 @ 7:00p

**Trustees** at regular meeting - February 20 @ 5:30p

Sunday February 9 - **Music team** @ 9:45a in the Music room

**Ushers team** @ 9:45a in the Sanctuary

**Missions team** @ 11:30a the classroom  
across from the office.

Sunday February 16 - **Technology team** @ 9:45a in the Music Room

**Religious Ed** @ 11:30a in classroom  
across from the office.

**Decorating** @ 11:30a in the Music room

**Stewardship & Special Gifts** teams will be announced at a later date.

### **Important Information:**

Beginning on Ash Wednesday our meals will begin as usual at 6 pm  
with worship at **6:45 pm** Instead of 7pm.

During Lent, we will have Voices from the Passion on Sundays. If  
anyone is interested call the office or talk to Pastor Brinker. Also  
looking for people who might want to participate in short dramas.

### **Communion Change:**

We are going to come forward and receive communion by intinction  
on a trial basis over the next three months. Communion will be taken  
to those in the pew who find it hard to get up and move around. We  
will still have gluten-free bread and the choice between wine and  
grape juice. Remember everyone is welcome, even children at the  
discretion of the parents or they can simply receive a blessing.

A new **Telephone/Address Book** will be published in the near future. Please use the  
enclosed form to update your information. If nothing has changed, simply check the  
"No Changes" box. For anyone who is not currently listed in the book, and would like  
to be, please fill out the enclosed form and either place in offering plate or return to  
the church office. This is a church family telephone/address book – you don't have to  
be a member.

**Dorcas Circle** will meet on Wednesday February 5 at 12 noon. All ladies are welcome to join us....bring your lunch and beverages and dessert will be provided by this month's hostess.

**Ladies: mark your calendar: Dorcas Circle will be hosting a Fashion Show/Luncheon on Saturday April 25th.....watch for details in the bulletin.**

It's coming---are you coming?  
What are you doing on Valentine's Day eve? Join **G.L.E.E. (God's Ladies--Evening Edition)** with free admission, free fellowship and free food in the dining hall for a program on writing Jesus biographies and the 10 prayers you can't live without. That is on Thursday, **February 13 at 7:30 .**  
Try us--you might like us.

### **PROGRESSIVE DINNER**

Have you ever been to a Progressive Dinner? Aren't even certain what a Progressive Dinner is? Well, if you:

- Like to eat a delicious 5 course meal.
- Visit friends in the comfort of their home.
- Enjoy lively conversations.
- Willing to put up with corny jokes.

If any of the above are for you, please join us on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, as the CREW sponsors a Progressive Dinner. More details will be upcoming in the near future.

For more information or if you think you may be interested in attending or in hosting one of the meal stops, please contact Jeannie Kammer at [Jeannie.Kammer@gmail.com](mailto:Jeannie.Kammer@gmail.com) or call at 810-300-1787.

### **ECHO deadline:**

The **deadline** for the **March 2020 Echo** is Monday, **February 17th.**

Please submit all articles/ announcements to  
Barb Schuster at  
[baschu65@att.net](mailto:baschu65@att.net) or  
the church office at

The Monthly  
***Pilgrim's Echo***  
is available on  
our website  
under the  
newsletter tab.

### **Web Address:**

**[1stcongregationalchurch.org](http://1stcongregationalchurch.org)**



**Like us on Facebook**

### **MANAGE YOUR GIVING ONLINE**

We now offer e-giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. You may also designate which fund you would like your contribution to go to.

Simply follow these easy steps:

- Visit the church website at [www.1stcongregationalchurch.org](http://www.1stcongregationalchurch.org)
- Click on the green "E- Giving" button,
- Click on the Create Profile button, then
- Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions. You may also make one time contributions by designating the fund of choice from the list provided.

**If you have any questions, please contact Cathy DeWulf or Barb Schuster.**

If you wish to receive your Pilgrim's Echo via e-mail, please notify  
Barb Schuster at  
[baschu65@att.net](mailto:baschu65@att.net) or  
the church office at  
[fccnb@att.net](mailto:fccnb@att.net).



Sunday School Teachers are needed March-April and May—1/2 June. No previous experience necessary....See Sandra Wasilina for details

### February birthdays

02	Marlene Steer
	Danielle Boyd
06	Bob Hudson
09	Karen Ricci
11	Cynthia Harmon
12	Greg Harmon
20	DJ Hubbert
21	Bob Potteiger
22	Shirley Hawk
	Sue McPhedran
23	Jon Foster
24	Pastor Brinker
	Bob MacDonald
26	Karen Davis
	Phyllis Dooley

### Children's birthday

6	Josie Wiley
10	Ben Hubbert

### February Anniversaries - No anniversaries

If you would like to be a part of our telephone prayer chain or would like to add someone to the chain, Please contact Rosalie LeRoy at 586-725-0743.

#### **Please remember our shut-ins and those recuperating:**

Bev Harwood  
Sharon Kuykendall  
Jesse Thompson

**Sharon Kuykendall** -  
33713 Bayview Dr #41  
Chesterfield, MI 48047

**Bob Mack** -  
29891 23 Mile Rd #18  
Chesterfield, MI 48047

**Norma Michael**  
29831 23-Mile Road, Apt. #12  
Chesterfield, MI 48047

**Sue McPhedran**  
40844 Fuller  
Chesterfield, MI 48051

### **February Mission News**

#### Mission News

We would like to thank those that contributed to the Christmas fund in December. \$402 was collected! Thank you.

Blanket Sunday was held on January 26. We will report on those totals next month.

Next up is our Blessing Bag collection. The Blessing Bags will be handed out on Sunday, February 23rd. They will be collected on Easter Sunday, April 12th and the following week. This year we are collecting for the Macomb County Warming Center. We would like each family to take one Blessing bag. When you feel you have been blessed add a coin (or paper money) to the bag. Some things you may want to consider are: you woke up, you have indoor plumbing, you have amazing kids or grandkids!

### **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

TWELVE WOMEN OF THE BIBLE:  
LIFE-CHANGING STORIES FOR WOMEN TODAY  
Meeting every other Tuesday  
Beginning January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:30p.m.

This 12-session small group Bible study, **Twelve Women of the Bible**, looks at the spiritual lessons learned from twelve biblical women and their implications of life today. They provide a deeper study of the Bible's most empowered and iconic women.

#### Sessions include:

January 28<sup>th</sup> - **Eve**: finding lasting contentment in the Truth.  
February 11<sup>th</sup> - **Rebekah**: Breaking free of feminine stereotypes  
February 25<sup>th</sup> - **Leah**: Overcoming rejection and insecurity  
March 10<sup>th</sup> - **Hannah**: Surrendering in waiting  
March 24<sup>th</sup> - **Abigail**: Dealing with confrontation in relationships  
April 7<sup>th</sup> - **Gomer**: Learning to accept unconditional love  
April 21<sup>st</sup> - **Mary, Mother of Jesus**: Moving from comfort to courage

#### **Continued in the fall:**

**Mary Magdalene**: Transforming from outcast to follower  
**Mary of Bethany**: Putting our faith into action  
**Martha**: Finding our identity in Jesus  
**The Woman at the Well**: Turning our messes into messages  
**The Syrophenician Woman**: Approaching god with persistency and boldness

Contact Kim Green, 586 918-7842 or [kjgreen64@gmail.com](mailto:kjgreen64@gmail.com)  
if you have any questions.

You may attend any or all meetings that interest you.  
Study guide is \$10.

## PASTY NEWS

Knowing that our church is anxious to learn the winter pasty schedule and to prepare their life for about two weeks, I am sharing it in two paragraphs down. A wonderful time of fellowship with friends doing a project that has made our church famous as the "Pasty Church," members are devoted to the task and make it fun. It's a ministry in itself.

Should members not be able to assist in making the pasties, but want to be involved, perhaps they may be more interested offering something for lunch, such as soup, salad or dessert or an entire meal for the "crew." There will be a sign-up sheet for each day, in the dining room for lunch to be served on days beginning on Thursday, Feb. 20, with serving time around 11:30 a.m. No lunch on Sundays due to coffee hour.

Schedule: Tuesday, Feb. 18: Vegetables arrive from Eastern Market with help unloading needed somewhere around 9:30-10a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19: 9 a.m.- until work is done: First day of peeling of ten batches of vegetables. Also, setting up the machines and preparing the kitchen; Thursday, Feb. 20: 9 a.m. until work is done: First day of baking and peeling vegetables; Friday, Feb. 21 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.: First day of sales until 6 p.m. Baking and peeling vegetables until work is done. There are a variety of jobs and members may choose what is convenient.

Note: Sales will continue daily until Tuesday, March 3, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., with Sunday hours, noon to 3 p.m.; Baking will continue daily except for Sundays. Peeling will continue except for Saturdays and the last day, March 3.

Looking forward to another great season: number 44 or 45, (right? Bill Cole?) due to the fact that we had four baking sessions in the first year, 1998.

**THE FUN CONTINUES AND NEVER ENDS! HURRAY FOR OUR WONDERFUL CHURCH!!!!**

Bette



### **Euchre Tournament** February 8, 6:30pm

Shake off the winter doldrums and come play cards with some fun people.  
\$5.00 to enter and 25c every time you get euchred.

Please bring a snack or sweet to share.  
Please sign up in the dining hall.

Congratulations to Sandra & Bill Wasilina on the birth of their first great grandchild, Owen Michael Bemeniuk born January 1, 2020 at 4:45pm. Parents are Jackie & Eric Bemeniuk.



**February 8** - Euchre Tournament

**February 21st thru March 3rd** - Winter Pasty Sale

**Feb 26** - Ash Wednesday Service at 6:45p

**April 9** - Maundy Thursday

**April 10** - Good Friday

**April 12** - Easter Sunday

**April 25** - Fashion Show

**May 2** - Progressive Dinner

Authentic Hamtramck

**PACZKI SALE**

Accepting orders until **Tuesday February 11, 2020**

\$28.00/dozen, \$15.00/half dozen or \$3.00 each

Cash or check on the day of pickup  
Flavors: apple, blueberry, custard, lemon, raspberry & strawberry

To Order Call First United Church of Christ in Richmond, 586 727-3155

Pick up day is:

**TUESDAY February 25<sup>TH</sup> 6 am- 9 am**  
at

First United Church of Christ  
68651 S Forest St., Richmond  
(at the corner of Forest & Main Streets)

# February Serving Schedule

DATE	GREETERS:	COFFEE HR HOSTS	READER:	NURSERY:	SUNDAY SCHOOL	TRUSTEE:	CAMERA:	A/V:
February 2	Kathy Vardon	Kammers & Boyds	Jon Foster	Beth & Ann P	Donna Dunsmore	Doug Rice	Cathy DeWulf	P. Maddix G. Harmon
February 9	LeRoy Family	Diaconate	Cynthia Harmon	Beth & Beverly B	Donna Dunsmore	Dan Ross	Dan Ross	S. Hawk L. Rice
February 16	Liz Rice	Available	Jim Parsons	Beth & Liz R	Donna Dunsmore	Bob Potteiger	Bob Hudson	D. Halstead A. Naldrett
February 23	Anna Cratsenburg	Available	Jim Parsons	Beth & Kim D	Donna Dunsmore		Greg Harmon	B. Schuster B. MacDonald

## Communion Servers Sunday February 2:

**8:45a** - Penny & Richard Kurtz , Bonnie Kandler

**10:15a** - Barb & Jerry Schuster, Sally Sutley

**February Decorating** - Sally Sutley

## USHERS

**February 2**      **8:45a** - Bette Carrothers & Maggie Peacock  
**10:15a** - Richard Kordas, Claude Sirois, Luke Sirois

**February 9**      **8:45a** - Chris & Karen Leduc  
**10:15a** - Dennis Hawk, Chuck Maddix, Greg Harmon

**February 16**      **8:45a** - Bob & Sally Hudson  
**10:15a** - Bob & Ann Potteiger, Dan Ross

**February 23**      **8:45a** - Simone Campau, Sharon Kuykendall  
**10:15a** - Jerry Schuster, Marlene Steer & Kathy Vardon



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC**

36223 Alfred Street  
New Baltimore, Michigan 48047

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE PAID  
ANCHORVILLE, MI 48004  
**PERMIT #7**



**Dated Material - Please Deliver Promptly  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Sunday Worship Schedule**

8:45a.m. And 10:15a.m.  
Open Communion 1st Sunday of the  
Month and Special Services  
Special Music each week  
Certified Child care available  
10a.m. 12noon,  
for Infants thru age 4  
Sunday School for ages 5 and older  
following Children's moment at 10:15a.  
Wednesday Eat & Pray 6p.m.  
Handicap Accessible

**Office Hours:**

**Monday - Thursday 8a.m. - 12noon**

**Friday - 9a.m. — 12noon**

Phone: (586) 725-0909

Email: [fccnb@att.net](mailto:fccnb@att.net)

[www.1stcongregationalchurch.org](http://www.1stcongregationalchurch.org)

**Our Mission Statement**

"Welcoming any and all, we join together in the love of Jesus,  
reaching out to the community and beyond"

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