

First Congregational Church UCC
est. April 29, 1856

November 2019

Pilgrim's Echo



¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good!

God's faithful love endures forever. (Psalm 136:1)

On Thursday, November 28, we celebrate the nations day of Thanksgiving. And even then, there really isn't a lot of Thanksgiving going on with everything else going on. November is a good time for God's people to remember that our lives are supposed to show forth regular daily thanksgiving and thanks-living.

On Wednesday, November 27, we invite everyone to join in a special meal at 6pm and join in the Thanksgiving Eve Service, with communion at 7pm. At this service we will hear the familiar story of Jesus healing the ten lepers from Luke 17:11-19. Remember how only one came back to thank Jesus for the miraculous healing, and he was a foreigner. The other 9 were so caught up in their new lease on life and ability to reconnect with their family and friends, they neglected to go back and thank Jesus, the source of their healing. How often do we find ourselves forgetting to thank God and those who love us regularly – sometimes in miraculous ways.

During November, maybe many of us will resolve to "Thank God" and thank those around us who have or are touching us in "little" yet miraculous ways. How about making that kind of commitment in November? Perhaps more of it will carry over into the rest of the year.

Oh yes, don't forget to write what you are thankful for on a "Thanksgiving Post-it Note" and post it on the bulletin board outside the kitchen in November.

One of the ultimate ways of saying thanks to God and your church is by growing in your giving in 2020 and considering giving an estimate of your giving for next year.

Giving Thanks to God for the opportunity to live, love and serve in your midst.

Pastor Henry C Brinker



**Giving Cheerfully...
Living Generously**

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

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 by 10 a.m. Wednesdays.



Please welcome the Southeast Michigan Deaf Community Ministry to our 10:15a.m. service when they join us every few months on a communion Sunday.
For information on learning **American Sign Language**, go to their website www.asldeafined.com



Daylight Savings Time ends on **Sunday November 3rd**.....set your clocks **back** one hour before going to bed Saturday night.

Coming in November

MANAGE YOUR GIVING ONLINE

First Congregational Church UCC is excited to announce that you can will soon be able to manage your 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. Simply follow these easy steps:

- Visit the church website at www.1stcongregationalchurch.org
- Click on the "On-line Giving" button,
- Click on the Create Profile button, then
- Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

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

"Watch for future announcements about adding an e-giving app to your smart phone."

Lectionary Readings for November

Date	Optional Readings	Epistle	Gospel
21st Sunday after Pentecost November 3, 2019	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 Psalm 119:137-144	2 Thess 1:1-4, 11-12	Luke 19:1-10
22nd Sunday after Pentecost November 10, 2019	Haggai 1:15b-2:9 Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 or Psalm 98	2 Thess 2:1-5, 13-17	Luke 20:27-38
23rd Sunday after Pentecost November 17, 2019	Isaiah 65:17-25 Isaiah 12	2 Thess 3:6-13	Luke 21:5-19
Reign of Christ November 24, 2019	Jeremiah 23:1-6 Luke 1:68-79	Colossians 1:11-20	Luke 23:33-43



Community Jigsaw Puzzle will be set up in the dining hall during October and November. You are welcome to enjoy puzzling if you have a few extra minutes before or after a church activity or you can stop in during office hours.



PASTIES R US

Pasty prep and sales continue through Tuesday November 5th!

The **Dorcas Circle** will host their Annual Christmas luncheon on Wednesday **December 4th** at 12 noon at Cedar Glen Golf Club. Cost is \$15 per person and you have a choice of 3 entrees: Grilled Chicken Salad, Salisbury Steak or Fish. This year we are collecting Small to medium reusable water bottles and measuring cup sets to be donated to Children's Hospital Diabetic floor. These items help young diabetics learn to measure their food properly and to encourage them to drink more water. Invite your family and friends to join us in kicking off the holiday season!! Please see Bonnie Kandler to make your paid reservation and menu choice.

G.L.E.E (God's Ladies Evening Edition) will meet on Thursday November 14th at 7:30p.m. This meeting we will be making holiday cards to share with our shut-ins and out of state friends. If you know of someone who you think might enjoy a holiday greeting, please give their address to Marge Reh.

It's that time of year again for all Chairpersons to begin planning their **2020 Budget Requests**. If you have any questions or need any information to prepare your Team's budget, please call the church office. Kindly return your budget requests to the Church Office by **November 18**.



We all enjoy the fellowship we share at our Sunday coffee hours. The following dates are available for volunteers:

November 17, November 24th & December 1st.

Please consider volunteeringany questions, please see Bonnie Kandler.

Looking ahead to

nominations for 2020 – We are looking ahead for individuals to serve on various boards and committees in the nominating and election process held in January. If you are interested, would like to suggest names, or have any questions, please contact Greg Harmon, our moderator.

[“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have.”](#)

Hebrews 13:16

ECHO deadline:

The **deadline** for the **December Echo** is Monday, **November 18th**. Please submit all articles/announcements to

Barb Schuster at
baschu65@att.net or
the church office at
fccnb@att.net.

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

Web Address:

1stcongregationalchurch.org



Like us on Facebook

Attention Snow Birds:

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

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 01 | Robert Halaas Jr |
| 04 | Sally Hudson |
| 11 | Sally Sutley |
| 13 | Bev Reno |
| 19 | Noelle Halaas |
| 22 | Rachel Pomaville |
| 24 | Jim Grubb |
| 25 | Penny Kurtz |
| 28 | Ann Potteiger |
| 30 | Katie Dailey |

November Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|----------------------|
| 05 | Mel & Maggie Peacock |
| 20 | Jack & Katie Dailey |
| 24 | Rick & Nancy Curd |

If you would like to be a part of our telephone prayer chain or would like to begin a prayer,

Please contact Rosalie LeRoy at
586-725-0743.

Please remember our shut-ins
and those recuperating:

Bev Harwood
Penny Kurtz
Sharon Kuykendall
Marge Reh
Bev Reno
Jesse Thompson
Marian Wilber

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

Mission News

As we have done the past several years the Mission team will again be wrapping gifts for **Big Family of Michigan**. The dates we have reserved are Monday, November 11 and Friday, December 6. There are sign up sheeting in the dining hall. We will be wrapping from 10 until noon on those days. We ask that you meet in the church parking lot at 9:15 and we will car pool to St. Clair Shores. After, for those that want to stop for lunch, we can do that! If you don't want lunch we will bring you back to the church. Please be sure to sign up as space is limited. If you prefer to drive yourself please let us know that as well.

As the holidays approach it will soon be time for the ***Giving Tree!*** This year we will again be partnering with Orchards, a support organization for children in Foster Care and for their families. We also have two local families who are experiencing difficult times. We will help these families ensure that the children (and adults) have a Merry Christmas. The tree will be put up on November 16th in the dining hall. We will provide further updates in the bulletin as to when the purchased items will be due back to the church and whether or not the gifts should be wrapped. In addition to specific items needed we will also be requesting gift cards from Kroger, Meyer or Walmart for use in our Christmas food baskets, for Pastor Brinker's use during the year, and for the use of the families we are sponsoring.

In December we will again be making up food baskets for local families in need. If you know of a family please let someone on the Mission's team know . In the meantime we are continuing to collect food items. Please place them in the bins in Freedom's Gate or the back of the church. We are also continuing to collect travel size toiletries.

Finally we will be supporting Dorcas Circle. For their December luncheon on Wednesday December 4 they will be collecting new, reusable water bottles for children and teens (think age appropriate and cute designs) along with measuring cups. These will be donated to the Diabetic unit at Children's Hospital and used to teach and encourage children with Diabetes to measure and drink more water. If you are not able to attend the Dorcas luncheon but still want to donate you may drop a water bottle or measuring cups off by the food bins in Freedom's Gate or back of the church.

The Wreaths Across America fundraiser is scheduled to run from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Nov. 7 at Lempke-Blackwell VFW Post 7573, located on 23 Mile Road in New Baltimore. Funds raised will help purchase hundreds of holiday wreaths for veterans' gravesites in Oakwood and St. Mary's cemeteries, both located on 24 Mile Road.

The menu will include pasta with meat or marinara sauce, salad, rolls, dessert and beverages. Carryout will also be available. Veterans eat for free.

DJ Joe the Magic Man will provide entertainment. Turri Italian Foods will provide the food. Desserts will be provided by Curves; coffee will be supplied by Biggby Coffee, and cold drinks will be provided by McDonald's. All-Ways Care will provide paper products for the event. Lempke-Blackwell VFW Post 7573 will provide the hall.

The local Wreaths Across America effort is led by Chairwomen Mickie Mellon and Tammi Graber.

Mark your calendars:

November 3 - All Saints/remembrance Sunday
November 27 - Thanksgiving Eve meal and communion service
December 1 - Advent begins
December 8 - Dorcas holiday pot luck
December 15 - multi generational Christmas pageant (tentative date)
December 18 - Blue Christmas service
December 22 - Choir Cantata at 10:15am
December 24 - Christmas Eve services at 4pm & 7pm

News and Notes

Dates to remember

Pasty sales continue through
Tuesday - **Nov 5**

**Stewardship Campaign -
October 27 through November 24**

Remembrance Sunday - Nov 3

Big Family Gift Wrapping Nov 11

Thanksgiving Eve Meal/service
November 27 6p

Thanks

Thank you for helping me
achieve the education needed
in order to let me have the career I
want. This scholarship is very much
appreciated.

Yet again, thank you and God Bless.

Sincerely,
Jonathan McElwain

**Please make the following
changes to your telephone/
address book and pictorial
directory:**

Lynn Lyon
36443 St. Clair Drive
New Baltimore, MI 48047

Mrs. Eleanor Maliskey
4601 River Road, Unit 206
East China, MI 48054
(810) 329-2734

Sharon Kuykendall
Change phone number to:
(586) 337-2526



On Sunday October
20th, Hadley Jane Ricci was
affirmed as a precious child of
God through Holy Baptism.

Hadley is the daughter of
Philip and Stephanie Ricci and
was born on January 2, 2019.
Godparents are: Lindsey Van-
Tiem and Tim DeWulf.
Proud grandparents are:
Roger & Cathy DeWulf and
Mike & Yvonne Ricci.

Dear Bette & Crew:

Once again we send our many
thanks to all of you for everything
that you did during our MCREST week to
help us as we cared for 30 homeless men
from the MCREST program.
You & your crew are such blessings to us.
Your dedication year after year is greatly
appreciated. It is wonderful how much we
can accomplish when we work together.
Thanks again.

In Christ's Love,
Kathi Bokano, Paul Meteyer & Gayle LeClair

thank
you!

Dear First Congregational Church,
All of us at **Humane Society of St
Clair County SNAP** send our thanks
for your very generous donation to
our organization.

Working together we can make a
great difference in the lives of many.
This donation will be used towards
providing us the ability to continue
in our mission of ending the large
number of homeless and unwanted
pets in our community.

Community support means so much
to us.

Thank you for "helping us help
them."

My Church Family:

Once again, my heartfelt
thanks to all of you for your
prayers and cards and phone
calls during my ongoing illness.
I have saved every card - I hope
to make a scrapbook with
them. My journey is getting
shorter - keep those prayers
coming - God is paying
attention!!

God Bless all of you -
Sharon Kuykendall

thank
you!



Sincere Sympathy

is extended to Melidee
Churchill, Penny Kurtz
and families on the death
of their brother, Kenny.

November Serving Schedule

DATE	GREETERS:	COFFEE HR HOSTS	READERS:	NURSERY:	SUNDAY SCHOOL	TRUSTEE:	CAMERA:	A/V:
November 3	Liz Rice	Tech Team	Cathy DeWulf	Beth & Ann P	Mel Churchill	Chuck Maddix	Sherry Cole	D. Halstead L. Rice
November 10	Anna Cratsenburg	Diaconate	Simone Campau	Beth & Bev B	Mel Churchill	Chuck Maddix	Bob Hudson	B. Schuster B. MacDonald
November 17	Ann Potteiger	Available	Anna Cratsenburg	Beth & Liz R	Mel Churchill	Chuck Maddix	Frank Reno	P. Maddix G. Harmon
November 24	Lynn Lyon	Available	Sally Sutley	Beth & Cathy D	Mel Churchill	Chuck Maddix	Greg Harmon	S. Hawk A. Naldrett

Communion Servers Sunday November 3:

8:45a - Volunteers please

10:15a - Kathy Vardon, Jon Foster, 1 volunteer

November Decorating - Ann Potteiger

USHERS

November 3 **8:45a** - Bette Carrothers & Maggie Peacock
10:15a - Richard Kordas, Claude Sirois, Luke Sirois

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

November 17 **8:45a** - Bob & Sally Hudson
10:15a - Bob & Ann Potteiger, Dan Ross

November 24 **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

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"
