

The First Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

A Bronze
Serpent
Saves the
Israelites



Tear Here

Welcome Guest, We are so happy that you are here today. If you would like more information about the First Congregational Church, please fill out the note below and place in the offering plate.

Your Name(s) _____

Phone number or email _____

Comments/Prayer Request _____

Would you like someone to contact you? Yes No

Third Sunday of Lent

March 24, 2019

10:00 a.m.

* those who are able, please stand

As you enter the sanctuary, please be mindful of those already seated who want a quiet place to pray.

The Order of Worship

Prelude Mary Jane Mack

Call to Worship Praise Group

“Revelation Song”

Welcome

Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymn** Blue Hymnal #10

“Majesty”

Invitation to Prayer Praise Group & Congregation

“Majesty”

Michael W. Smith

Majesty, Majesty Your grace has found me just as I am

Empty handed, but alive in your hands

Majesty, Majesty Forever I am changed by your love

In the presence of your Majesty

Prayer of Confession

Response (remain seated) Praise Group & Congregation

“Above All”

Above all powers, above all kings,

above all nature and all created things,

Above all wisdom and all the ways of man;

You were here before the world began

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones,

above all wonders the world has ever known,

Above all wealth and treasure of the earth;

there’s no way to measure what You’re worth.

Crucified and laid behind a stone,

You lived to die rejected and alone,

Like a rose trample on the ground,

You took the fall...and thought of me above all.

Crucified and laid behind a stone,

You lived to die rejected and alone,

**Like a rose trample on the ground,

You took the fall...and thought of me above all. Repeat**

Story Bell

Mat Emerick

“Threepeat”

Hymn of Preparation Blue Hymnal #340

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in His wonderful face;

And the things of earth will grow strangely dim

In the light of His glory and grace.

Scripture Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

139 O.T.

Message

Pastor Ray Dekker

Death’s Antidote is Death

***Hymn** Blue Hymnal #319

“Near the Cross” (all verses)

Prayers of the People and Silent Prayers

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy

kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as

we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but

deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory forever. Amen

Offertory

Mary Jane Mack

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all

creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

*** Closing** Blue Hymnal #329

“There is Power in the Blood” (refrain only)

There is pow’r, pow’r, wonderworking pow’r

In the blood of the Lamb.

There is pow’r, pow’r, wonderworking pow’r

In the precious blood of the Lamb.

***Benediction**

***Pastor:** The Peace of Christ be with you. **Congregation:** And also with you.

***Postlude**

Mary Jane Mack

“O God, you are our God..Because your steadfast love is better than life, our lips will praise you”. Let us worship God.

*Visitors ~ Welcome! There is a Welcome Packet in the pew rack for you. Please fill out the Guest Information insert, place it in the offering plate and take the packet home for review of the other information. We are thankful you are here and hope that your time here is a special blessing to you and your family. Please let us know how we can best serve you.

*Large print Bibles, bulletins, and Children’s bulletins are available from the ushers. Quiet bags for children to use while they are in the worship service are available on the table in the narthex.

*Children are an important segment of the living body of Christ, so we welcome them in our worship services and grant to them the blessing of worshipping along side their parents, siblings and family in Christ. Families with young nursery age children are also welcome to use the “Family Room” in the balcony located on the 2nd floor.

*Our sanctuary is equipped with a T-Coil Hearing Loop. Please turn your hearing aid to the T-Coil position to access this feature. Other hearing devices are available at the sound booth upon request.

*The Deacons invite you to join us for a few moments of prayer in the library at 9:40 a.m. each Sunday morning. We want to ask God to prepare our hearts for worship, to guide those leading worship in word and song and invite the Holy Spirit to minister to our church family and visitors. Please come and pray!

Following the worship service you are invited to join us in Fellowship Hall. Come meet new friends and have some refreshments. We look forward to meeting you.

Serving Us:

Altar Rep:	Pat Krehn
Altar Flowers:	Barb Clark(today) (next week)
Greeters:	Guy & Raene` Redinger(today) (next week)
Ushers:	Jack & Mary Butterick, Dick Ramm(today) Shelli Waldo, Dave White(next week)
Compassion:	Judy Clapp
Keyboard:	Sylvia Lee
Sound System:	Rick St. Peter
Coffee Hosts:	(today) Pat Krehn & Georgia Paxton(next week)

The flowers on the altar today are given by Barb & Ted Clark in loving memory of Barb’s mother who would have been 100 years old on March 23.

Celebrating this week:

Happy Birthday to ~

Ann Jeannero, Kelley McKivitz, George Purvis (30), Nancy Smalligan (31)

Happy Anniversary to ~

David & March Zeerip (24), Jerry & Helen Miller (26)

Prayer Requests ~

(Prayer requests will be printed for two weeks. The person or family requesting prayer must call the church office or Pastor Ray in order to have the request printed)

Our shut-ins: Frank Blain, Bob DeShetler, Bob Erber, Barb Lindner, Jean Morse, Marge Peets, Siria Pinnick, Don Potter, Norma Purvis, Karen Zick
Jerry Miller - will be receiving radiation & oral chemo

This Week’s Calendar

Sunday, March 24

9:40 a.m. Prayer Time - Library
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Goulash Luncheon - Fellowship Hall
SCRIP is available for purchase

Monday, March 25

6:30 p.m. Executive Council - Library

Tuesday, March 26 - *Church Office Closed*

3:00 p.m. Violin Lessons - Lounge
5:00 p.m. Double Classroom Reserved - RAYZ
6:30 p.m. Spring Centerpiece Make & Take - F. Hall

Wednesday, March 27

6:15 p.m. Praise Group Rehearsal
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall

Thursday, March 28

9:00 a.m. Woodshop Open
10:00 a.m. Christmas Crafters - Fellowship Hall

Friday, March 29 - *Church Office Closed*

7:00 a.m. Men’s Lenten Breakfast - 1st CRC

Saturday, March 30

9:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

Sunday, March 31

9:40 a.m. Prayer Time - Library
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time - Fellowship Hall
SCRIP is available for purchase

Lorene will be working on Thursday, March 28 (early bulletin) and out of the office on Friday, March 29.

Our Church News

Today we welcome Mary Jane Mack as the accompanist for our worship service. She is filling in for Sylvia who is traveling. Thank you Mary Jane! Also, special thanks to Lorene Witte who is rehearsing the choir while Sylvia is away. Thank you Lorene!

TODAY - Women's Fellowship will be serving a Goulash Luncheon following worship. A free-will offering will be received for the Wood Shop. All are welcome and encouraged to join us for this delicious time of good food and fellowship.

Jerry Millers tumor was a level four. He will require multiple radiation treatments and oral chemo and needs to get these started within the next week to ten days. They are currently working with the VA on getting these started. If the VA can't help them in Florida they will have to head back to Michigan. Thank you everyone for all the thoughts, cards and prayers.

Jean Morse has moved to Indiana with her daughter and son in law. She will be there at least until July. She would love to hear from her church family. The address for Jean is: 2260 Lake Crest Drive, Columbus, IN 47201.

Women's Fellowship will be have a Spring Centerpiece Make & Take Ladies night on Tuesday, March 26 at 6:30 p.m. You will be making a small centerpiece to take home with you and we will be making them for the tables in Fellowship Hall. Coffee & Cookies will be served. Please sign up by March 20 on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

Requested Announcements

It's time for the 4th Annual Free Prom Dress Event & More on Friday, March 29th from 5-8 p.m. and Saturday, March 30th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at First Reformed Church, 348 E Main, Fremont! Our room is overflowing with beautiful dresses, jewelry, shoes, guy's shirts, suits and suit coats, shoes and ties!! Please spread the word if you or anyone that you know needs prom attire! We are excited and blessed to be able to offer all of this free of charge!! We thank the Community and beyond for their generosity!

Women's Lenten Breakfast - You are invited to the Women's Lenten Breakfast on Saturday, April 13 at 10 a.m at Fremont United Methodist

Church, 351 Butterfield St. If you have any questions you may call the Fremont UMC church office at 924-0030. Hope to see you there!

ConGo Enjoy-Meant" Events

We are "ConGo" (Christians on the Go) and meant to go and enjoy good food and fun activities together!

"Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." Neh. 8:10

"Go and enjoy":

April 27- Vaudeville Show at the Dogwood 7:00pm- Another fun outreach variety show from CONGO to the community.

May 18- "Congo-Que" with Professional Barbequer Mark Wescott ("Smokin' Good Time BBQ")- More details TBA but put it on your calendar!



EASTER FLOWER ORDER

_____ **6" Pot Easter Lilies (\$8.00) (5+ blooms)** to be used in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019

_____ Following the worship service, I/we will pick up our lily(s).

_____ Following the worship service, the Altar Committee may take care of my/our lily(s) in an appropriate way.

Given by: _____

In Memory of _____
or/and

In Honor of _____

This completed form, along with your payment for each lily ordered may be placed in the offering plate, or in the church office by **April 5, 2019.**