

**The First Congregational Church**  
Your Independent Worship Center

*Deeply Rooted ~ Future Focused*

Pastor Luke Schmalz 920-428-0030

Office Hours - Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Please call the church office to meet with the Pastor

Keyboard/Organist Karen Roggatz, David VandenBelt, Lorene Witte

Creative Ministries Mat Emerick 231-923-2967

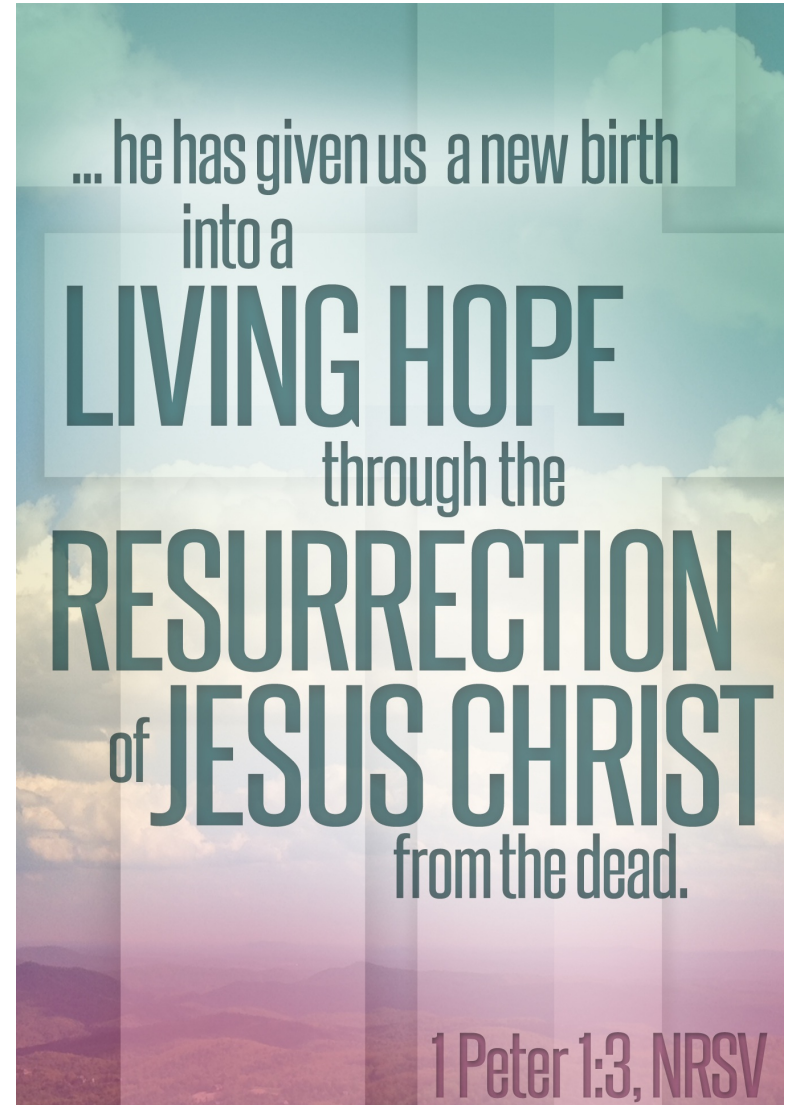
Music Minister Deb Emerick 231-924-9558

Secretary Lorene Witte 924-4710

(cell) 231-282-0515

Website: [www.fremontfcc.org](http://www.fremontfcc.org) email: [congo@fremontfcc.org](mailto:congo@fremontfcc.org)

Church: 231-924-4710 714 Hillcrest Drive - Fremont Mi 49412



**April 16, 2023**

**The Order of Worship**  
**\*please stand, if you are able**

**Prelude:** Lorene Witte

**Welcome**

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship** - Psalm 16

Pastor: Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the Lord,  
“You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.”

**All: The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.**

Pastor: The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

**All: I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

Pastor: Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

**All: For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit. You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Opening Hymn** - “Worship Christ, the Risen King” - **Blue Hymnal #361**  
(vs 1,3,5)

**Prayer of Confession**

Pastor: Lord, bring new life where we are worn and tired; new love where we have turned hard-hearted; forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded; and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit where we are prisoners of ourselves. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon**

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

To all and to each, on his community and on his friends, where regret is real, Jesus pronounces his pardon and grants us the right to begin again.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**\*Response** - “Gloria Patri”

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.

**JeLy Bell!** All kids are invited to go to the JeLy Room for JeLY Church!  
(JeLY - Jesus Loves You)

**Scripture:** Acts 2:14a, 22-32, I Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** “A Living Hope” - *Pastor Luke Schmalz*

**\*Apostles Creed**

**\*Hymn** - “He Lives” - **Blue Hymnal #368**

**Moments of Praise & Prayer Requests**

**Prayers of the Congregation**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

**\*Doxology** (As the offering is brought forward)

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 Hymn** - “Because He Lives” - **Blue Hymnal #358**

**\*Benediction**

Pastor: “I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. May Christ’s rising lift your spirits and gladden your hearts.

**All: Alleluia! Amen**

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

**\*Postlude:** Lorene Witte

**Greeting us today:** Susan Stewart  
Next Sunday: Jeannie & Ted Caris

***Happy Birthday to ~***

Arnold Dougan (19), Bill Black (21)

***Happy Anniversary to~***

Arnie & Betty Dougan (19)

***Prayer Requests ~***

*Our shut-ins:* JoAnn DeKleva, Yvonne Lee, Siria Pinnick, Marj Salata, Bill & Millie Sherman

*Health Concerns:*

Judy Nadeau - Broke her leg

***This Week's Calendar***

**Sunday, April 16**

10:00 a.m. Worship  
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time - Fellowship Hall  
11:15 a.m. Deacons Meeting - Library

**Monday, April 17**

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall  
10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open  
6:30 p.m. Trustees - Library

**Tuesday, April 18 - *Church Office Closed***

**Wednesday, April 19**

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Library  
10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

**Thursday, April 20 - *Church Office Closed***

10:00 a.m. Christmas Crafters - Fellowship Hall

**Friday, April 21**

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall  
10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

**Saturday, April 22**

**Sunday, April 23 - *Creation Care Sunday***

10:00 a.m. Worship  
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time - Fellowship Hall  
11:15 a.m. Women's Fellowship Brunch - Fellowship Hall

Next Sunday we will Celebrate God's creation. Look around at the beauty He has created - Let's glorify Him!!

***Our Church News***

**Welcome to worship!** We are grateful for your presence - whether you are a visitor or a member we are thankful to be worshipping together.

**Today's service will** be available at our website - [www.fremontfcc.org](http://www.fremontfcc.org) and also on Facebook. And now it is also available in a third location YouTube. Our "channel" can be found at First Congregational Church of Fremont MI. Be sure and check out one of our three locations.

**Offering plates are located** in the narthex at this time, they will not be passed. An usher will bring your offerings to the Chancel for the Pastor to place on the altar.

**Craft Corner** - Spring items made by our crafters are available for a donation only (checks made out to Women's Fellowship). These items are located in the old Boy Scout display case which currently displayed pictures in Fellowship Hall.

**Fight hunger in Newaygo County ...** please donate packaged and canned food to True North's Food Pantry. There's a basket in the narthex. Your contribution will be appreciated.

**Join us after worship on Sunday, April 23** for a brunch hosted by Women's Fellowship. The menu will be breakfast casserole with hash browns and ham and a fruit cup. Please sign up on the coffee counter in Fellowship Hall so they know how many to plan for.

**Mark your calendar for** a Make & Take Summer Flower Pot arrangement to be held on Saturday, May 20 at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please sign up on the coffee counter in Fellowship Hall so Women's Fellowship can pick up the necessary supplies.

***Requested Announcements***

**Coming to Fremont UMC Saturday**, April 29 at 5:00 p.m. Brent Vernon, singer, song writer, ventriloquist, author, illustrator. Vernon is singer-songwriter and ventriloquist from South Florida, Using songs, stories, and humor to communicate his faith, he has crisscrossed countless times as well as performing in Ireland, Australia, Canada and the Caribbean With songs of hope and redemption, he encourages his listeners to passionately seek God's Kingdom while resting in God's faithfulness. Come see him live. A free will offering will be taken.

**Mark your calendars for a Spring Concert** by the River Country Community Choir (RC3). This year it will be held in Fremont at the Dogwood Center on Sunday, May 21 at 3:00 p.m. Participating from our church Bill Black, Al Smalligan and Dave White.

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

IS HOSTING A

## DONATION DRIVE

FOR LOVE INC OF NEWAYGO COUNTY



THIS IS A GREAT  
OPPORTUNITY FOR THOSE  
IN THE FREMONT AREA TO  
DONATE TO LOVE INC!

BRING YOUR GENTLY USED  
CLOTHING, SHOES,  
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS,  
FURNITURE, ELECTRIC  
APPLIANCES, ETC. AND PUT  
THEM IN THE LOVE INC  
TRAILER THAT WILL BE  
LOCATED AT THE FIRST  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
IN FREMONT.

**COLLECTION DATE: APRIL 29 FROM 9AM-3PM**

**714 HILLCREST DRIVE, FREMONT, MI - 231.924.4710**

If you have questions about what can be donated, please call  
Love INC at 231-652-4099. Thank you for donating with a purpose!

[www.fremontfcc.org](http://www.fremontfcc.org)

