

$Deeply\ Rooted \sim Future\ Focused$

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

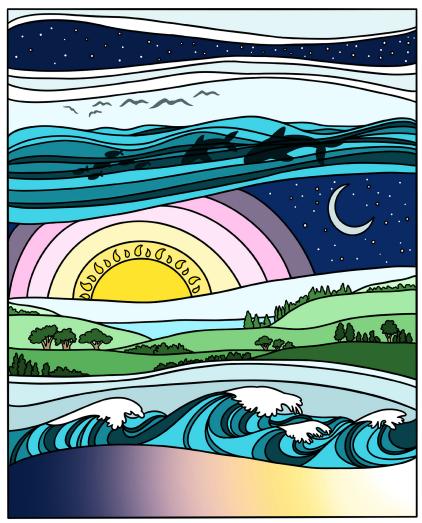
Keyboard/Organist Karen Roggatz, David VandenBelt, Lorene Witte Creative Ministries Mat Emerick 231-923-2967 Music Minister Deb Emerick 231-924-9558 Secretary Lorene Witte 924-4710

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The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center



Caring for God's Creation

April 23, 2023

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

Prelude:

Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship - Psalm 8

Pastor: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

All: When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Pastor: Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

All: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Opening Prayer

*Opening Hymn - "This Is My Father's World" - Blue Hymnal #143

Prayer of Confession

Pastor: O Almighty God, I humbly ask you to make me like a tree planted by the waterside, that I may bring forth fruits of good living in due season. Forgive my past offenses, sanctify me now, and direct all that I should be in the future for Christ's safe.

All: 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.

God the Creator brings you new life, forgives and redeems you. Take hold of this forgiveness, and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Response: "All Creatures of Our God and King" - Blue Hymnal #63 v 1,3,5

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

Scripture: Acts 2: 14a; 36-41, Romans 8:18-25, Luke 24:13-35

Reader: The Word of the Lord **All:** Thanks be to God.

Message: "Let the Earth Rejoice" - Pastor Luke Schmalz

*Apostles Creed

*Hymn - "God of Wonders" - Praise Group

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 - "Fairest Lord Jesus/My Soul's Glory" - Praise Group

*Benediction

Pastor: May the Creator of Heaven and Earth create a clean heart and a new and right spirit in you.

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

*Postlude

Greeting us today: Jeannie & Ted Caris Next Sunday: Carrie & Tony DeMull

Happy Birthday to ~

Beth Hooker (24), Mary Butterick (27)

Happy Anniversary to~

Duane & Loretta VanDuzen (24), Pat & Robin DeKleva (30)

Prayer Requests ~

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

Health Concerns:

Judy Nadeau - recovering from a broken leg

This Week's Calendar

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

Monday, April 24

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

6:30 p.m. Executive Council - Libaray

Tuesday, April 25- Church Office Closed

Wednesday, April 26

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Library

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open **Thursday, April 27** *Church Office Closed*

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

Friday, April 28

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

Saturday, April 29 - Love INC trailer in parking lot

Sunday, April 30

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time - Fellowship Hall



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 worshiping together.

Today's service will be available at our website - 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.

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

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 today for a brunch hosted by Women's Fellowship. The menu will be breakfast casserole with hash browns and ham and a fruit cup.

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.